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1856

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Chatterjee 8/12/15

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
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New Delhi

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Pages 1 to 295

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Netaji Subhash Chander Bose -
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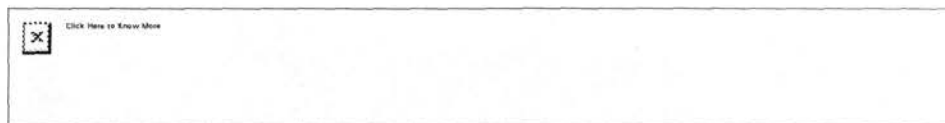
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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

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Soviet papers add to Bose mystery

Sudhi Ranjan Sen
(New Delhi, October 28)

Hard facts have emerged from Moscow vaults to indicate that Subhash Chandra Bose was very much alive till at least 1946 - and that he did not die in the 1945 plane crash as had been given out, and later endorsed by the two Government of India appointed inquiry commissions. So, the Bose mystery deepens. The new findings are based on declassified documents in the Russian military archives in Paddolsk, and from the British archives.

They were discovered by three researchers—Purabi Ray, Hari Vasudevan and Shobanlal Dutta Gupta—working on the history of communist movement in India.

Adding to the mystery are the calls from unidentified persons asking the researchers to suspend all further inquiries and end the government-funded research. Work on the project stopped shortly, around middle of this year.

When contacted, Purabi Ray, who headed the research, flatly said, "I would like to first depose before the the Mukherjee commission (the third inquiry panel so far), then give out the details."

The Russian archives yielded two precious documents. One was about a discussion Joseph Stalin had with his defence minister Voroschilov and foreign affairs minister Molotov in 1946. The other was a report filed by a Soviet field agent stationed in India, also in 1946.

The first document quotes Stalin and others discussing plans for the communist movement in India vis-à-vis Bose. And records available in British archives (under the 'declassification after 30 years' rule) show that on August 17, 1945, (the plane crash was reported the next day), Bose had expressed a keen desire to reach Soviet Union to continue the struggle against the British.

Yet another British archive document states that the entire theory of the plane crash, in Taihuku (Japan), was "pre-planned and contrived." Subsequently, a Japanese newspaper—as late as December 20, 1945—reported that Bose was on his way to the Soviet Union and passed through Tokyo.

Just a few days before Stalin and his colleagues discussed Bose, a Soviet agent named V G Sayadyants (based in Mumbai) reported home that "the Soviet Union cannot possibly work with either Nehru or Gandhi," and that the Communist movement in India "is in a disarray." Now, the crucial bit: "Bose is the only hope for Soviet Russia," he concluded in his report.

Further, the two death reports—one from MI2 (a wing of British military



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intelligence) and the other from the British embassy in Japan, which lent credence to the story that Bose had died of severe burns in the plane crash—have major discrepancies. While the British embassy report claimed to have clearly identified Bose's body, the MI2 report was "not sure."

(3)

NINE FINDINGS

9.1 The conclusions arrived at in the preceding chapters may now be set down as the findings of the Commission.

- (i) Bose was informed on August 12, 1945, that the war was about to conclude and the Japanese had decided to surrender to the Allied Forces. He was at that time at Saranban. The message was brought to him there by Negishi (Witness No. 50).
- (ii) Bose at once left for Singapore where he discussed his future plans with his colleagues and the Ministers of his Cabinet, almost day and night. The decision was taken on the 14th when Sakai arrived and conferred with Bose. It was decided that Bose himself should leave Singapore and try to escape to Russia where he hoped to find asylum.
- (iii) On the morning of 16-8-1945, Bose left Singapore accompanied by Col. Habibur Rahman, S. A. Iyer (Witness No. 29), a Japanese Liaison Officer Negishi (Witness No. 50), Col. Pritam Singh (Witness No. 155) and others. The party arrived at Bangkok at 3.30 P.M. and spent the night there.
- (iv) At about 8 A.M. on 17-8-1945, Bose and party left by two planes for Saigon. Bose's party included Col. Habibur Rahman, Deb Nath Das (Witness No. 3), S. A. Iyer (Witness No. 29), Hachia (Witness No. 51), Ishoda (Witness No. 68), Gulzara Singh (Witness No. 153), Col. Pritam Singh (Witness No. 155), Abid Hassan (Witness No. 157) and others. The party arrived at Saigon at 11 A.M.
- (v) The planes in which Bose and his party had travelled to Saigon had to go back, and fresh arrangements had to be made for the next stage of the journey. Bose was informed that one seat could be given to him

in a Japanese bomber which had come from Manila and was going to Dairen in Manchuria. The plane, Bose was informed, had, on board, a number of Japanese army officers who had been posted to Manchuria and who could not be left behind.

- (vi) Bose was very upset on hearing this, because he wanted to carry all the members of his party with him. Ishoda and Hachia were sent to Dalat where Field Marshal Tarauchi was camping. These two emissaries could not see Tarauchi personally, but his Adjutant told them that it might be possible to make available two or three seats in all for Bose.
- (vii) Ishoda and Hachia returned to Saigon and conferred with the pilot of the plane and the Japanese military authorities there. The conclusion was that two seats were placed at the disposal of Bose.
- (viii) After some discussion, Bose decided to avail himself of the two seats, and asked Habibur Rahman to accompany him.
- (ix) The Japanese bomber left Saigon at approximately 5 P.M. carrying Bose, Habibur Rahman, Lt. Col. Sakai (Witness No. 47), S. Nonongaki (Witness No. 53), Tarokono, Navigator (Witness No. 63), Takahashi (Witness No. 65), the pilot in charge Takizawa, Genl. Shidei, second pilot Ayogi, all three of whom were killed and some others, whose names need not be mentioned. They were the crew and other officers posted to Manchuria, or to Tokyo.
- (x) The plane arrived at Touraine at 7.45 P.M. and the party spent the night there.
- (xi) On the morning of 18-8-1945 the bomber left Touraine carrying the previous complement of crew and passengers and arrived at Taipei in Formosa at 2 P.M.

(9)

- (xii) The party had a snack lunch at Taipei while the pilot attended to a snag, which he declared, had been corrected, after a short while.
- (xiii) The plane took off 2.35 P.M. but within a few seconds one of the engines flew out and the plane crashed near the fringe of the Taihoku airfield. The body of the plane broke into two parts and caught fire.
- (xiv) The pilot Takizawa and Genl. Shidei were killed inside the plane. The rest of the crew and passengers came out, but all of them had sustained burn injuries, two of them viz. Ayoagi and Bose had received very severe burns.
- (xv) The injured persons were carried to the army hospital a few kilometers from the airfield and given medical treatment.
- (xvi) Bose had sustained burn injuries of the third degree and despite the efforts of the doctors to revive him, he succumbed to his injuries the same night.
- (xvii) Of the other injured persons Ayoagi, the second pilot also died.
- (xviii) Two days later, Bose's body was cremated and his ashes were carried to Tokyo in the beginning of September 1945 where they were deposited in the Renkoji Temple.
- (xix) There is no reason for believing that the relations between Nehru and Bose were anything but friendly on a personal basis. Political differences between them did not lessen Bose's great respect for Nehru and Nehru's affection for the younger politician whose patriotism no one questioned.
- (xx) There is not the slightest evidence of any attempt by Nehru to suppress the truth about Bose at any stage or to make false statements about his death at Taihoku on August 18, 1945. His concession to a public demand for enquiry was an instance of his compliance with democratic procedures and not an admission of his disbelief in the truth of the crash story.
- (xxi) The personnel of the Committee appointed by Nehru's government to enquire into Bose's disappearance is ample evidence of his *bona fides*. He appointed Bose's brother, who could be presumed to make an earnest search for truth about his brother and whose appointment would win public confidence. The Chairman was Shah Nawaz Khan, who was a close associate and confidant of Bose and who had taken a very prominent part in I.N.A.'s campaign against the British. Shah Nawaz Khan could, therefore, be depended upon to conduct the enquiry honestly and conscientiously. The third member was Shri S. N. Maitra, a member of the I.C.S. and a Bengali. He was chosen because of his administrative experience, his proved integrity and his attachment to Bose who belonged to his own State.
- (xxii) There is no evidence of any attempt by the present government to withhold evidence or place impediments in the way of this Commission. All documents called for have been supplied and the delay occasioned in making some files and documents available cannot be construed as placing obstacles in the progress of the enquiry. Such delays are a normal feature of government red-tape and pre-occupation with more urgent matters.
- (xxiii) Bose had impressed the Japanese as a great patriot and a competent administrator could win the confidence of Indians in South-East Asia. The Japanese, however, looked upon him not as an equal ally, but as a person whom they could use for their own ends. It was with great reluctance that they allowed Bose to organise the Burma campaign against the British forces. The Japanese, however, did not give adequate assistance to the I.N.A., and despite promises, they did not hand over the occupied territory to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. An instance in point was the Nicobar and Andaman Islands, the administration of which was not completely entrusted to Maj. General Loganathan, who was sent

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as High Commissioner by Bose to take charge of the Islands. All the evidence points to the fact that the Japanese neither had complete confidence in Bose's ability to lead a large army and secure victories over the Allied Forces, nor did they fully trust him. They, nevertheless, had considerable respect for him because they saw that he was a man of remarkable courage and unquestioned patriotism.

(xxiv) The Japanese attitude towards Bose underwent a change when the war concluded. The Japanese were more concerned with trying to retrieve whatever they could of their own resources than with giving large-scale help to Bose which would have proved detrimental to their own interests. Also the blow to their self-esteem was so violent that they became indifferent to Bose and his future plans.

(xxv) The numerous stories about encounters with Bose at various times and various places after 1945, are completely false and unacceptable. They are the result either of hallucination helped by wishful thinking or have been invented by persons who wanted to draw attention to themselves and advertise themselves as public-spirited men.

9.2 The determination of the findings set down above brings this inquiry to its conclusion. Before I take leave of the matter, I must place on record my appreciation of the assistance rendered by the large number of the individuals and organisations who have assisted me at all stages of this long and sometimes arduous undertaking. It is not

possible to mention all names, but I am conscious of a sense of gratitude to many who are not specifically named, but who greatly facilitated my task in India and abroad. The readiness with which witnesses in Japan, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan came forward to give evidence was most gratifying. There are also others who rendered much assistance to me. The counsel appearing in the inquiry deserve my thanks for their courtesy and their sense of duty. I should particularly like to express my appreciation of the assistance rendered by Shri A. P. Chakraborty, who conducted himself completely in accordance with the highest traditions of the Bar, always courteous, always well prepared, always acting with a high sense of integrity and always willing to render real assistance to the Commission. I must also express my gratitude to the late Shri T. R. Bhasin, Counsel for the Commission, whose hard work and impartial summing up were of inestimable value to me. He was ably assisted by his junior Shri S. B. Wad.

9.3 I am beholden to the Commission's staff for their unstinted services at all times and more particularly when the pressure of work subjected them to not a little strain. This strain fell more particularly upon the stenographers and typists who had to work for long hours and type out a voluminous record and a long report. Without their co-operation and help it would not have been possible to conduct this inquiry and complete this report.

JUNE 30, 1974.

G. D. KHOSLA

Netaji's death anniversary

As instructed, I attended Netaji's death anniversary function organised at the Renkoji temple on Friday, August 18. Around fifty persons, including Mr. Hayashi, Secretary, Subash Chandra Bose Academy and Mr. Okuda of the Academy attended the anniversary. After the prayer, all the persons present paid their respects to Netaji and a commemorative photograph was taken. Following this, lunch was served in the adjoining room. Mr. Hayashi explained about the developments in the past one year and Mr. Okuda added that the developments are in the positive direction, although the movement is very slow. I was requested to speak. I recalled the sacrifices made by Netaji and his associates for liberating India from the colonial rule. I thanked the Subash Chandra Bose Academy and the associates of Netaji for keeping his memory alive. The ceremony lasted for two hours.

May kindly see.

Rajasekhar
[C. Rajasekhar]
FS (Cul & Edn)
22.8.2000

~~CdA~~ *(Signature)*
22.8.2000
(Signature) 23/8
Asst (Cul)

PTI News: April 24, 2000

(7)

BIRTHPLACE OF NETAJI TO BE MADE A NATIONAL MONUMENT

NEW DELHI, APR 24 (PTI) THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE STEPS TO DECLARE THE BIRTHPLACE OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE, JANAKINATH BHAVAN IN CUTTACK IN ORISSA, AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER JASWANT SINGH SAID MONDAY.

HIS ASSURANCE IN THE UPPER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT (RAJYA SABHA) CAME AFTER A UNANIMOUS DEMAND BY MEMBERS THAT THE CENTURY-OLD BUILDING, NOW IN A DILAPITATED CONDITON, BE RENOVATED AND DECLARED A NATIONAL MONUMENT TO HONOUR THE MEMORY OF A GREAT SON OF INDIA.

THE DEMAND CAME UP IN A SPECIAL MENTION BY C. NARAYANA REDDY (NOMINATED), WHO EXPRESSED SUPRISE THAT JANAKINATH BHAVAN, BUILT BY NETAJI'S FATHER, JANAKINATH BOSE, WAS YET TO BE DECLARED A NATMONUMENT.

ALONG WITH GANDHIJI AND NEHRU, NETAJI IS ALSO CONSIDERED A GREAT SON OF INDIA, REDDY SAID, ADDING IT WOULD BE IN THE FITNESS OF THINGS THAT HIS BIRTHPLACE WAS TURNED INTO A NATIONAL MONUMENT AS IT WAS DONE IN THE CASE OF THE BIRTHPLACES OF THE OTHER TWO LEADERS.

REDDY AND LEADERS OF ALL OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE HOUSE SPOKE ABOUT THE DILAPITATED CONDITION OF THE BUILDING AND DEMANDED ITS RENOVATION WORK BE TAKEN UP IMMEDIATELY.

JASWANT SINGH SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS IN TOTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED IN THE HOUSE. WE WILL BE ACTING ACCORDINGLY SO THAT THE BIRTHPLACE OF NETAJI IS PROPERLY AND ADEQUATELY COMMEMORATED, HE SAID. (PTI) RCR SMI SA AMPTI 04241627 R NNNNN

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EMBASSY OF INDIA
(Science & Technology Wing)

Mr. Shigemoto Okuda, President Representative in Japan, Saudi Arabian Airlines, who was once associated with Indian National Army, has informed that he has learnt from Mrs. Krishna Bose, MP and Chairman, Advisory Committee of MEA, that the Government of Singapore has accepted the proposal of holding an exhibition on Netaji Subhash Chander Bose, towards the end of this year in Singapore.

Mr. Okuda has promised to convey the details once he hears about them from India or Singapore. He told it to me during PM's Cherry Blossom party on April 14.

U.S. Tandon
(U.S. Tandon)
Counsellor (S&T)
dated: 17.4.2000

For information, please.

Ambassador

Shuril

17.4.2000

DCM

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AP (on Netaji's file file)



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Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose still revered in the Far East

By GURMUKH SINGH

BANGKOK: In the Far East where he raised the Indian National Army (INA) to liberate India more than 50 years, Subhash Chandra Bose is still a cult figure. Talk to any elder about Netaji, and he complains about the lack of appreciation of his hero's role in the freedom struggle. "Had he lived longer, India would not have been partitioned, for Jinnah had full faith in him," say Netaji's former comrades in Bangkok and Singapore.

The Indians weighed him against gold -- the first-ever Indian revolutionary -- on his birthday in 1943 here. "He weighed a solid 83 kilos," recalls a misty-eyed Seth Tarlok Singh Chawla, 82, a personal friend of Netaji. "All of us had pledged him our blood, sweat and money, in writing," he adds.

To this day, Chawla daily worships the two pistols which Netaji had handed him when he left Bangkok for the last time. "See you in the Red Fort," Netaji had said," Chawla recalls. "Eight days later, he was announced dead in a plane crash," he sounds skeptical.

Displaying the rusty Colt .32 and FN .635, Chawla says, "Netaji usually carried only one pistol, I know very well. But when he retreated from Rangoon to Bangkok with the Rani Jhansi Brigade, he carried one more. He told me he was going to Singapore, and asked me to keep the pistols till we meet again -- in the Red Fort."

On a visit to Thailand, Indira Gandhi had asked Chawla to give the weapons to the National Museum in Delhi. "But I didn't want to part with them for sentimental reasons."

Recalling his 'heart-to-heart' exchanges with Netaji,



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Recalling his 'heart-to-heart' exchanges with Netaji, Chawla believes that "his political rivals in India had spread many false things about him. Since he was nobody's lackey he was forced out of the Congress. Yet he never uttered a word against Gandhiji or Nehru, such was his sense of dignity. This also led to his emphasis on self help. He stressed that he acted independent of the Germans and the Japanese, never accepted help from them, and turned down the German offer to be accommodated in their army. Instead he persuaded them to let him form the Indian National Army (first in Berlin) with 10,000-12,000 Indian PoWs released by the Germans."

Netaji moved to the Far East in 1943 as the Japanese wanted him to shore up the moribund Indian Independent League under Ras Behari Bose.

"Personally, he too wanted to be closer to the theatre of action," says Chawla. On reaching Singapore, he relaunched the INA with 50,000 Indian British Army PoWs released by the Japanese. At its peak, the INA numbered 80,000."

Dusting off old receipts of Indian businessmen's contribution to the INA, Chawla confirms that all INA expenses were borne by Indian traders. "The Thais too were very very generous," reveals the aging businessman whose family had moved to Thailand at the turn of the last century. "Twice he was their official guest here."

Recalling Netaji's last days, he says, "He felt let down by the Japanese. Had they heeded his advice not to completely cordon off the Indian army in Kohima and left a passage for retreat, many Indian soldiers would have come over to the INA: the outcome would have been different. But the Japanese were eager to finish them (the British India army soldiers) off. But it did not happen as the cordon was broken."

Netaji retreated from Rangoon "fearing molestation of his Rani Jhansi Brigade by the British Indian army," says Chawla. When the surrender loomed large, the INA had a whopping 80 lakh bahts in its account. "All INA soldiers were given six months' salary as we did not know will happen to them. Besides, the money would have fallen into the hands of the British."

Chawla led a delegation of Thai Indian leaders to Nehru in 1945, requesting him to accommodate the INA veterans in the Indian army after independence. "For

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Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose still revered in the Far East

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veterans in the Indian army after independence. "For obvious reasons, he did not agree. Nobody wanted to give Netaji credit."

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India Headlines

Accept Netaji's death and honour him, says daughter

Dr Anita Pfaff, 57, was just one month old when her father, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, last saw her. He left Germany for Japan two months later and died towards the end of the World War II in an air crash. Now married, with two children, she has grown up learning of her father's ideals from her mother. Here, on a sabbatical and to meet Indian leaders, she thinks it is high time the 'silly' debate about whether her father is dead or alive is put to rest and a fitting memorial -- "not a statue, please" -- is erected in the capital. She spoke to Mahendra Ved.

What does it mean to be Netaji's daughter?

Any child would be proud to have outstanding parents. It is also a burden, since you have to live up to their stature. But since I lived abroad and did not play the daughter, it is less so for me. When I grew up, I was told of the work he had done and what he stood for. It was much later -- in 1960 -- that I met my other family members. In 1979, I paid the only visit to Japan to see the ashes of my father at the Renkoji Temple near Tokyo.

Are you following the debate on what happened to him?

I am following all these rumours. Some of them are spectacular. I have formed some opinion, since one cannot live in vacuum. I am absolutely sure he is not alive. He would have been 103 and the possibility of someone not seen for over 50 years to be alive now is minimal. To say he was a great man and therefore must live forever is rather silly. There is no reason for him to keep away from public and keep quiet after independence.

My mother accepted that he was dead. She was one of the millions of mothers who were bringing up their children without the help of husbands.

Many people, including some members of the Bose family, and leaders of the All India Forward Bloc, do not accept that the ashes at the Renkoji Temple are those of Netaji.

Some objections are well intentioned, and some are not-so well intentioned. Those who think that he is no more are upset that he is not being recognised as such. There are the Japanese sentiments, his associates in Japan, who have been taking care of the ashes. They would like to send it to India, where it belongs. They also have this religious belief that the soul is not put to rest till the ashes are immersed in the motherland. They are upset that India and our family have not acted. Many of the associates have died and those now in charge fear that the younger people may not be able to take good care. I have gone by the testimony of Habibur Rahman, who was with him and who was himself injured. The rest -- that he may have escaped to Manchuria or to the

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Pl. keep on Netaji. Jm.

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Soviet Union and that he may have been killed there -- are rumours. What I have learnt so far is that there is nothing to prove this.

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Have you asked the Russians, or studied the records?

I am neither a historian, nor do I know Russian. Unless something comes, I find the air crash story convincing. The reports about researchers having found evidence and about various people having cited Netaji at different times are all rumours. There are many crackpots with ideas.

I would like to put an end to all this. There is an inquiry underway and the results are awaited. I am personally not too troubled. But I know the embarrassment that India is facing. If the ashes were brought home and given due honour, that would be fine. There should be a memorial for Netaji.

Where should the memorial be set up?

In New Delhi. I cannot say where. I am not familiar with the place. There are people better qualified than me to decide. But I do believe that this whole issue of denying that he is dead is also a way of denying him due honour.

It is not so much a matter for myself. How India as a country wants to treat its heroes. Ultimately, it is also a question of India's self-respect. I am upset at the Bose family's attitude. Some members do not want to accept that he is dead. They have said something in the past and think that they should not change. Partly, it is a matter of being consistent. Some people have kept saying something and find it difficult to change their opinion. The Bose family does not speak with one voice, which makes it difficult for the Government of India. The Forward Bloc people think it is disrespectful to say that he is no more. Ultimately, it comes to the question of belief -- a belief against belief. There cannot be a water-tight proof of whether he died or not, given the circumstances. But I think that it is not disrespectful to say that my father is dead, since the idea of his being alive is beyond any probability.

There are any number of roads, statues and memorials named after Netaji. So why another memorial?

Honouring Netaji is overdue, especially since the centenary year 1997-98 has gone. I don't so much believe in statues. A memorial should be befit Netaji's ideals. Education was important to him. Transmission of culture, values was dear to him.

Have his ideals been fulfilled in independent India?

The sentiment 'what I can do for my country', is not strong any more; 'what I can get out of my country' is. But this is happening everywhere. There is more corruption here than elsewhere, perhaps. But selfishness is everywhere. The ideal of community service is all but gone here.

What appealed to you about Netaji?

He was a person who thought beyond his times. Read his Haripura Congress address. He spoke of the population boom, the role of the working class, the role of women. All these are relevant today. He was a modern man. A man who thought beyond the freedom struggle as political emancipation. Today, the concept of planning is becoming less and less popular. But he thought of planning.

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It is said that the Nehru-Gandhi era saw Netaji's denigration.

This is too one-sided. This may have been the problem not of Nehru or Indira, but of their minions. Relationship between Nehru and my father was complex. They had been comrades-in-arms and worked together. There were others also. There was always that element of competition in working together. After Independence, he would have perhaps been a competitor. But for that, to paint Panditji as a villain is unfair.

What is the subject of your sabbatical here?

I am an economist who deals in social problems. I am here to give ideas and listen to some. Caring for the aged is a growing global problem. Though the joint-family system is cracking up, it is still there. The problem is much worse in the West where the process has gone on for too long and too far. Only the moneyed people can afford to be in aged homes and sanatoriums. Others have to live either with their children or depend upon them. In India, you think the homes for the aged are horrible, but you are going to need more of them. But there is the constraint of funds and infrastructure. There is no direct one-line solution to this. But I am glad in India the problem of the aged is being seen along with that of the children and women. An integrated approach is needed. It has to be a combination of the children looking after their parents and of the society and the government doing their bit.

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No immediate plan to bring Netaji's ashes: PM

NEW DELHI: The Prime Minister has said the government has no immediate proposal to bring the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India and that there was no move to politicise the issue.

He made the clarification in a letter to Forward Bloc general secretary Debabrata Biswas who had written to him taking strong exception to his statement last month that the government could initiate the process to bring Netaji's ashes provided there was a consensus on the issue.

In his letter, Biswas had said the PM's statement amounted to "scuttling" the independent functioning of the inquiry commission appointed by his government to probe the disappearance of Netaji and one of its terms of reference was whether the ashes lying in a Japanese temple were those of Netaji.

While paying homage to Netaji on his 103rd birth anniversary last month, the PM had said the government could initiate steps to bring home his ashes and keep them at the Red Fort.

"At the outset, let me clarify that there is no immediate proposal before the government to bring the ashes lying in Renkoji Temple (in Japan) to India," the PM said, adding, "the reference made to the same was in the context of a volume of correspondence received from different quarters requesting the government to do the same."

"There is no question of the government politicising the issue or being guided by partisan considerations in the matter," the PM said, adding the government would await the report of the commission and extend cooperation in every manner to ensure that it was able



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cooperation in every manner to ensure that it was able to function smoothly.

He assured Biswas that any action in this regard would be initiated by the government only if there was a broad agreement in this regard.

"The findings of the inquiry commission, of course, will be a fundamental consideration in any such decision," he said.

About his suggestion that the office of the inquiry commission be shifted from Calcutta to Delhi, the PM said this would be looked into.

The ashes of Netaji are claimed to be lying at Renkogi Temple near Tokyo. Netaji who had formed the Indian National Army in 1943 to fight the British with the help of Japanese was reportedly killed in an air crash over Taipei on August 18, 1945. However, there has been a controversy over his death. (PTI)

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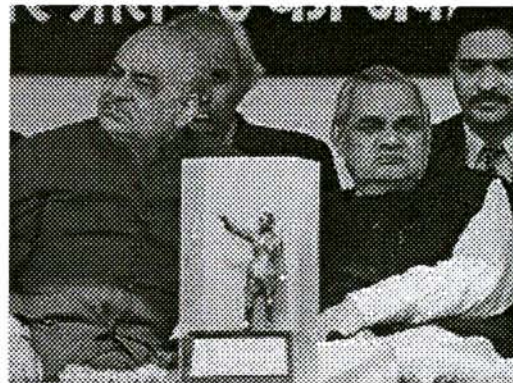
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Govt. ready to bring Netaji's ashes from Japan

NEW DELHI, JAN. 23. The Prime Minister, Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, today said that the Government could initiate the process of bringing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan and keep them in the Red Fort, but there should not be any differences on the issue. He was addressing a function to pay homage to the legendary freedom fighter on his 103rd birth anniversary today.



The ashes of Netaji are at present kept at Renkogi temple near Tokyo. Netaji who had formed the Indian National Army in 1943 to fight the British with the help of Japanese was reportedly killed in an air crash over Taipei on August 18, 1945. However, there has been a controversy over his death. The Prime Minister said his Government had already set up a commission to probe into the disappearance of Netaji. "Truth should come out" and the country should know what happened to Netaji and whether he died in an air crash, Mr. Vajpayee said, adding the earlier probe had failed to arrive at a decisive conclusion.

Appealing to the people to furnish whatever information they had to enable the commission to complete its task, he said that the Government would see that all relevant documents and information were provided to the panel.

Eulogising the services and the role of Netaji in the freedom struggle, Mr. Vajpayee said though the country was strong enough, the amount of concern the people should have for their motherland was missing.

Urging the people, particularly the youth, to draw inspiration from the life of Netaji to build a proud and prosperous India, he said Netaji belonged to the great tradition of Indian heroes who symbolised vigour and vision.

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Among those present on the occasion were former Delhi Chief Ministers, Mr. Madan lal Khurana, Mr. Sahib Singh Verma and the former Election Commissioner, Mr. G. V. G. Krishnamurthy.

- PTI

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A historic sub ride to Japan 19

By YOSHITAKA SASAKI

Asahi Shimbun

On the morning of April 28, 1943, a German U-boat bobbed in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Madagascar, Africa. About 40 yards away lay the Japanese submarine, Igo. A rope was laid across the two submarines and a rubber raft traversed the rough sea, from the U-boat to the Igo and back again. Men in the small craft, chased away circling sharks with gunfire. The precious cargo delivered by the U-boat was Subhas Chandra Bose, leader of the independence movement of India.

Bose visited each of the Axis powers to meet the leaders of fascism, Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler and Hideki Tojo, and asked for assistance in India's struggle against the British. "I would take the hand of the devil himself for the sake of independence," he once declared.

Bose wore a dripping life jacket and a heavy beard acquired during his long journey. A telegram dated 11:59



ASAHI SHIMBUN FILE PHOTO

Subhas Chandra Bose

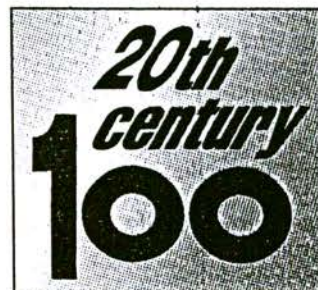
April 28, 1943 (Greenwich mean time) still remains in the archives of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs announcing U-boat 180's successful completion of its mission—Bose's transfer to the Japanese submarine. It had taken two months for the U-boat carrying Bose to travel from the naval port of Brest in northern France, which it left in late February, around the Cape of Good Hope and make the rendezvous in the Indian

Ocean.

The Japanese submarine, Igo 29, had traveled from Penang on the Malay Peninsula to meet the U-boat at a point 400 nautical miles south-southeast of Madagascar. The waves in the Indian Ocean had remained high and stormy seas had dogged the vessel.

Hiroshi Hirano, 88, who was a secretary at the Japanese naval attaché's office in Singapore was responsible for the reception of German and Italian submarines and their crew, claims it was a miracle that the two submarines met at all in such vast and heavy seas in an era of an astronomical navigation. "Moreover, a large percentage of submarines were sunk. Only five out of 10 vessels ever reached Singapore; and of those, only three made it back to their home base."

Bose put his life on the line in this journey to Japan for the purpose of establishing the Provisional Government of Free India and urging the Japanese Imperial Army to invade British-controlled India. His most pressing desire on reaching Japan, therefore, was



to meet with Tojo, who was Japan's prime minister.

Tojo, however, was reluctant, and it was only in mid-June, a month after Bose arrived, that the two finally met. But when they did, Tojo was impressed. "He is, indeed, a hero," he remarked to those around him. "This is a man who can be depended upon."

Bose's impression of Tojo, however, which he conveyed to a friend was, "He is a simple, straightforward man, well-suited to the military, but not to international politics."

Bose outlined his plan for Indian independence and presented two demands: Japan's

SEE BOSE ON PAGE 2

Contd --- 2/2

Crusader traveled the globe in the name of freedom for India

BOSE FROM PAGE 1

support of the Indian independence movement must be unconditional with no strings attached, and Japan should extend its military operations to India as soon as possible.

Two days later, Bose was given a seat of honor in the Imperial Diet. Tojo, standing at the podium, gazed up at him and declared, "The Empire is committed to delivering India from the grasp of American and British power and to pursuing every means to achieve its independence."

On June 21, Bose transmitted a radio broadcast to India from the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), in his first public broadcast from Tokyo.

"I am now in Japan," he stated. "The government of Japan has announced that it will fully support the movement for Indian independence." England, which believed him to be in Germany, was astonished, while the Indian populace was ecstatic to learn that Bose, who seemed to have disappeared without a trace, was actually in Asia.

Bose was born in Cuttack, Orissa, the sixth son of a wealthy West Bengali lawyer and a Brahman, India's highest caste. He went to a college in Calcutta. In January 1916, an Indian university student involved in a movement to abolish privileged seating for the British, was slapped by a British professor. In protest,

the students went on a strike that culminated in an incident in which a student punched a teacher. The student was expelled and Bose, as class president, was suspended for instigating the strike.

World War I had already started. The people of India, promised independence if England won the war, cooperated by sending more than 1 million troops to the front lines in Europe.

But when the war was over, the promise was not kept, and the discontented masses were subject to tight controls. Bose leaned ever more strongly toward the radical anti-British resistance movement. Singled out as a troublemaker by the government, he was jailed 11 times.

During his eighth term behind bars, he developed tuberculosis and was sent to a sanatorium in Vienna. There, however, he threw himself back into the independence movement, without properly completing his treatment.

While in Europe, he visited Rome and met Mussolini. "Do you believe that independence can be achieved by reform or revolution?" Mussolini asked him. "I believe that revolution is best," Bose replied. "Then start planning now," Mussolini told him. "For revolution, it is necessary to be prepared."

Mussolini seems to have taken a liking to Bose, allowing him four meetings. Bose had charisma. Some say this was because of his devotion to the independence movement and

his disinterest in personal gain. Later, when Japan was defeated in World War II, Bose had about 90 million yen in cash. This he distributed among his subordinates without reserving a single yen for himself.

In 1939, World War II began. Bose went to see Mohandas K. Gandhi and urged him to act, declaring that this was a golden opportunity. "Why?" Gandhi asked him. "Whether Britain wins or loses, she will have lost her power. Then we can achieve independence through non-violence."

"At a time like this, it is necessary to use drastic military measures," Bose insisted.

Gandhi considered this for a moment and then replied. "If you are convinced that this is the way to succeed, give it your very best effort. Although it is not my way, if you do succeed, I will be the first to send you my congratulations."

In July 1940, Bose was imprisoned for the final time. He pondered how he could escape and in November, he began a hunger strike. He became increasingly weak, and as his death in prison would only create trouble, the government transferred him to house arrest.

His nephew, Sisir Kumar Bose, 79, a doctor in Calcutta, told me what happened. "At 1:30 in the morning on January 17, 1941, I quietly took my uncle to my car. He sat in the back, and we left the car door slightly ajar so as not to make a sound."

When the gate opened, I got

into the driver's seat and slammed the door to make the guards believe there was only one person in the car."

The light in Bose's room on the second floor was extinguished about one hour later, and the man on watch relaxed, pulled his covers over his head and went to sleep.

Bose reached Berlin on April 2, traveling via Kabul and Moscow. The Nazi government greeted him as an honored guest, for he was a trump card against the British. The Free India Center was created in Berlin, and he was supplied with a fine residence.

While he was in Germany, Japan declared war on Britain. Bose was determined to go to Japan and plead his cause there, too. At the end of May, 1942, he met with Hitler at the Fuhrer's house.

According to records in the archives of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bose requested assistance to reach East Asia. Hitler assented, saying, "England can only be defeated by a simultaneous attack from inside and outside the country. After going to Japan, therefore, you should commence an offensive from the closest place to India. The airways are too dangerous, but we could arrange to take you by submarine."

At the end of their interview, Bose made one final request of the dictator. "Fuhrer, in your book, Mein Kampf, your understanding of India is slanted. At an appropriate time, I would appreciate it if you would per-

sonally correct this by presenting a correct interpretation of India."

Hitler scowled and answered, "It will take India at least 150 years to attain home rule."

Bose secretly married Emilie Schenkl, an Austrian beauty 10 years his junior.

When Bose was in Vienna for treatment in 1934, he had hired the 26-year-old Emily as his secretary. The two became close while working together. But Austria had already embraced Nazism and they could not make their relationship public.

In November 1942, Emily gave birth to a girl, Anita. She registered the birth as illegitimate.

Bose wrote a letter to his brother, Sarat, in Calcutta just before he boarded the submarine for Japan, saying, "I am again embarking on the path of danger, but this time towards home. I do not know whether I shall see the end of this road....I have married here and have a daughter. In my absence please show them the love you have given me all my life." The letter was dated Feb. 8, 1943, and written in Bengali.

From Japan, Bose went to Singapore. In October, 1943 he announced the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India, becoming its head and the commander in chief of the Indian people's army.

He also declared war on England and the United States. Shortly after, a campaign to

seize Imphal in northeastern India was started. Kazunori Kunizuka, 82, who spoke English and was serving as a first lieutenant in the intelligence corps at the time, was assigned to accompany Bose, because he was considered capable of convincing Indian forces in the British army to come over to the anti-British side.

Kunizuka noticed that Bose did not have any relations with women while in Asia. Once a submarine brought mail from Germany, a rare occurrence, and Bose received a letter. After the war, Kunizuka discovered that this letter was from Bose's wife. "I will never forget how happy he looked when he received it," he recalls.

On Aug. 15, 1945, the war in Asia ended with Japan's surrender. Bose, however, did not give up.

He carried on with his plans to visit the Soviet Union. On Aug. 18, the Japanese bomber he was riding in stopped to refuel in Taipei and then crashed immediately after takeoff.

Although Bose was taken to the hospital, he died that night. In India, a rebellion sparked in a Bombay naval base spread. The independence for India of which Bose had dreamed was realized quite suddenly in August 1947.

Bose's remains are enshrined at Renkoji, a Buddhist temple in Suganami Ward, Tokyo. The government of India has yet to claim them, apparently because a rumor continues to circulate in India that Bose is still alive.



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Netaji is dead, bring his ashes home: Sisir Bose

By Mahendra Ved

The Times of India News Service

NEW DELHI: "Enough of controversy over the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Let us accept that he was not immortal. He is now part of our history," say Netaji's nephew, Sisir Bose, and his wife Krishna Bose, a Lok Sabha member.

They want the urn containing Netaji's ashes to be brought to the Capital, and placed near the Rajghat if possible, "befitting Netaji's role in the freedom movement."

Though some West Bengal parties have attacked the external affairs minister for praying at the Renkoji Temple in Japan, where Netaji's ashes are kept, during his recent visit, the Boses are "most happy."

"The Japanese have kept it with honour. But why should Netaji's ashes remain there for over 50 years," asks Dr Bose who had driven Netaji from his Elgin Road residence in Calcutta during his escape from house arrest by the British.

Ms Bose finds it "painful" that dignitaries visiting the temple have to answer questions about why Indians do not want to take home the ashes of one of their greatest freedom fighters.

The Japanese, she says, find the entire controversy inexplicable. "Go tell your people that he was not immortal," Mochizuki, head priest of the temple, told the Boses the last time they went to Renkoji. Today, his son, by the same name, is continuing the father's mission, burning incense sticks and lamps before the urn.

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“They are puzzled by the belief in India that Netaji did not die in the 1945 air crash and that there are so many theories about his ‘disappearance’. Why should we lie to you about someone whom we also respect, the Japanese are asking,” Ms Bose told *The Times of India*.

The controversy has been fuelled by what the Boses call “so- called research conducted in Russian archives” recently. “Nothing conclusive was found to dispute Netaji’s death in the air crash.” Moscow had clearly conveyed to then Indian envoy Ranen Sen that there was nothing in the archives to indicate that Netaji had survived the crash, or that the aircraft had strayed into Soviet territory.

Two commissions have probed the circumstances under which Netaji disappeared and a third one, by Justice M Mukherjee, is working on it afresh. Dr Bose, who refused to depose before the Justice Khosla Commission - “simply because I was not physically present at the crash site and could not vouch for anything” - thinks it is time to set the controversy to rest once and for all.

“All evidence indicates that he died in the air crash. Anything to the contrary is not based on evidence,” Dr Bose, who heads Netaji Research Institute in Calcutta, said.

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Jaswant defends visit to Renkoji temple

NEW DELHI: External affairs minister Jaswant Singh on Tuesday said his visit to Renkoji temple in Tokyo, where "ashes" of Netaji Subash Chander Bose have been kept, will in no way hamper the work of the inquiry commission, which is looking into the mysterious disappearance of the INA leader on August 18, 1945.

The minister made these observations when Joyanta Roy (FB) through a special mention in the Rajya Sabha took serious objection to Jaswant Singh's visit to the temple during his four-day official visit to Japan last week.

Roy alleged that the government was not serious about unveiling the truth regarding the disappearance of Netaji. Jaswant said his visit to the temple would in no way "compromise the work of the commission".

Roy also demanded a detailed statement from the minister on his visit to the temple. (UNI)

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24 SEPTEMBER 99

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Joint Secretary (Coord.) From Counsellor (Pol)

Repeat Joint Secretary (EA)

We have seen newspaper reports about Union Cabinet's decision to set up a *Commission of Inquiry* to go into the circumstances of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's demise/disappearance over half a century ago.

Grateful advise about the current status of the CoI, and particularly whether it has been constituted.

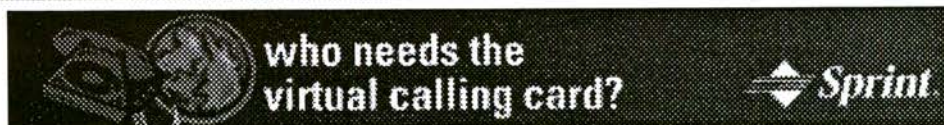
With regard

Vishnu
(Vishnu Prakash)

THE HINDU

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Friday, May 07, 1999



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The Netaji legend

THE UNION CABINET'S decision to set up a Commission of Inquiry to probe the mysterious disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok over five decades ago may seem odd in the prevailing situation, but it will surely be welcomed by millions of his admirers who believe that the Centre has not done enough to find out the truth. What is more, the Chief Justice of India will now be asked to nominate a retired judge of either the Supreme Court or a High Court to head the Commission. The panel's headquarters will be based in New Delhi as this will ensure adequate infrastructure and access to information helping it produce its report within the stipulated time of six months. That the Centre has taken nearly two years to take the decision following directions given in 1997 by the Calcutta High Court on a writ petition can only be explained by the persistent political uncertainties in New Delhi.

Interestingly, the resolution passed by the West Bengal Assembly attracted attention as the birth centenary of Netaji was celebrated in the country with enormous public enthusiasm. Although the panels set up earlier by the Centre, headed by Shah Nawaz Khan and Justice G. D. Khosla, accepted the contention that Netaji had been a victim of an air crash at Taihoku in Formosa as true, a large section of his followers held a contrary view. The Centre, which accepted the findings of the panels on Netaji's death, was highly embarrassed as the whole issue acquired a political dimension. Possibly for this reason, it did not take seriously the demand for a fresh probe for over two decades and maintained that there were too many contradictions in the testimony of the witnesses to warrant a fresh probe.

The Calcutta High Court's directive seeks to put an end to the long-standing controversy. As the Union Home Minister, Mr. L. K. Advani, presided over the meeting convened by his Ministry and was attended by a high-profile team, including Netaji's kin, Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, before the decision was taken to start a fresh probe, the Vajpayee Government has taken the initiative to settle the controversy over Netaji's death once and for all. The findings of the new panel should highlight the secular character of Netaji's political philosophy. While his collaboration

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with Japan during the war and association with fascism raised controversy, he advocated during the freedom movement separation of religion from politics to establish a truly free society. Netaji's faith in the diversity and unity inspired millions of people. The terms of reference of the panel should cover the whole gamut of Netaji's life and the secular character of his leadership. It should focus on controversial issues like whether he really died in a plane crash as alleged by the Japanese authorities and whether the ashes kept in a Japanese temple were really of Netaji's.

It is hoped that the panel findings will emphasise Netaji's sacrifices and sufferings in the freedom movement. Netaji symbolised the values, vision and determination of a poor nation to free itself from colonial rule. His ideals and political philosophy are as relevant today as they were five decades ago. He was against all social and economic barriers. His militant politics made him a controversial but highly respected nationalist leader. In its brief but laudable career, the Indian National Army led by him, inspired millions, particularly the youth of the country. The panel would do well to look into all aspects of Netaji's political relations with the Japanese leaders to establish the circumstances under which he disappeared from the scene in August 1945.

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The Japan Times at 12/6/99

WITNESS TO ATROCITIES

'40s Indian nationalist still active

By ANGELA JEFFS

For a man who claims not to like talking about himself, V.C. Lingam has a lot to say. Retired for 10 years or so, he can be found most days of the week hanging out in the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan in Tokyo's Yurakucho, where, on a click of imperious fingers, benignly tolerant staffers — who obviously know his little ways well.

Although he has spent most of his life as a soberly respectable businessman, Lingam has an interesting place in history. There was a time when as a very young man he bucked the system to become a political activist on the fringes of mainstream society. Looking back now, near 60 years later, he has no regrets about his cause: Indian nationalism. But he does see that allying himself with Japan imperialism may not have been a very good idea.

He grew up in Malaya, where his southern Indian parents had extensive rubber and coconut plantations in different parts of the country. "When the British left, we had three choices: go back to India, stay and take Malaysian nationality, or stay and keep our own nationality. So I have an Indian passport, but now with permanent residency in Japan."

Did I know, he asked, that Japanese can go virtually anywhere in the world without a visa? (Well no, I didn't ...) Americans too, maybe, he surmised.

After a happy, privileged childhood he was sent to high school in Japan. "Most youngsters in my position were packed off to the U.K., or Australia, but for some reason I was drawn here. Even though I knew Japan was a building block of war, I didn't worry. I've always been like that: unbothered by the shifts of the world around me, very independent-minded."

Unbeknown to him, a fervent advocate of Indian nationalism had started a movement in Japan to liberate his country from British rule. Rashbehri Bose (not to be confused with Chandra Bose) had left India in disgrace after a bomb-throwing incident. This contradicted the Indian National Congress' pacifist policy of nonviolent resistance to the British at that time, led by Mohandas Gandhi.

"Japan had formed an alliance with the Indian Independence League," V.C. explained. "No one on the run

from a British colony could be repatriated, under the protection of Japanese rightists. By the time I arrived here in 1940, Rashbehri had become a Japanese citizen. I was supposed to study electrical engineering at Tokyo University, but being attracted to Bose and the league, soon gave up any pretense of schooling."

Except to his parents, of course. He needed that monthly allowance to fund his volunteer activities, so kept its change of purpose extremely quiet.

When the war started, Rashbehri Bose moved his operations to Bangkok, taking 10 IIL members along for the ride. "I was 20 and passionately supportive. The main idea was create an Indian army from those Gurkhas employed by the British Army — all under control of the Japanese, of course. Rashbehri wanted his compatriot Chandra Bose, who was in Nazi Germany, to come and take over. When he arrived, brought in by a German submarine, we moved on to Singapore."

Chandra, it seems, had his own people. He exhibited little interest in IIL members from Japan, and certainly not the young V.C. "I was beginning to have strong doubts, not about liberating India from the British, but about the war. Singapore was terrible, and any Japanese who claims the Rape of Nanking and similar atrocities in Southeast Asia didn't happen, well, send them to me. I was there (in Singapore). I witnessed with my own eyes."

By this time Rashbehri had been diagnosed with tuberculosis. As his condition worsened and plans were made for his return to Japan, V.C. was elected to go on ahead with his leader's personal possessions — clothing, books and records. "It took two very stressful weeks by ship, dodging U.S. vessels. To be honest, I'm lucky to be here."

When the Japanese government refused to allow him to return to Southeast Asia, he got a job working for Radio Tokyo. "I knew things were getting really bad, that it was only a matter of time before Japan lost the war. When the Americans arrived, I quickly hopped from one side to the other."

This time he opportunely got work as an English-Japanese interpreter, down in the warehouses in Shibaura. It was the best job, he says. "Suddenly I had no worries



V.C. LINGAM, who arrived here for schooling in 1940, worked to free India from British rule, but found his efforts stymied by World War II. ANGELA JEFFS PHOTO

about where the next meal was coming from." Maybe he sounds callous, he pondered. But really, that's the way he has always been: without any real worries ... a maverick free spirit, just going with the flow.

He made any number of useful connections. Married. Started a business in plumbing when labor was cheap. Bought a few houses when land was incredibly cheap: "Nine hundred yen a tsubo in Aoyama. Imagine!" (I tried ...) "Built one of the first properties in the area after the war ended. Stocks and shares have never interested me; land is everything. But I made one bad mistake: put all my houses in my Japanese wife's name."

After breaking away from a U.S. association and going out on his own, he went bust. "I'd borrowed heavily without any collateral. When I wanted to sell one of the properties to

pay my debts and get back on my feet, she refused; it was hers, she said." Not wanting to sue, he finally got her to agree, but had to sign a piece of paper saying he would pay his first wife back every yen at a later date. "Well, that was the end of that marriage. But we're still in touch; I bear no grudges."

Sitting in the Imperial Hotel one day, he met a friend from his days working for the Lions Club, the philanthropic organization with roots in Chicago but now operating worldwide. About to start a business, he invited V.C. to join him. "I remarried and life settled down. Children? Yes, a son from my first marriage who lives in America. Just before his wife died of breast cancer, they adopted a Korean boy who's now 9. They come come here, I go there; we're close."

What preoccupies him these days is the lot of the Japanese. Despite the pass-

ing of the years, nothing has really changed for the better, he observes; indeed, in some respects things have got worse. "Superficially Japan appears democratic, looks Westernized, but people's thinking has not kept pace. Banning is corrupt, the whole system is corrupt. If the government says white is black, people will believe it. Why, most don't even trust their own shadows."

Strong words. And there were more from where those came from: "Japanese can make an atom bomb, but will drop it between the factory and truck. ... Once I ordered bacon, ham and eggs in a restaurant, but the staff were incapable of getting their minds around the fact that the menu read 'ham and eggs' or 'bacon and eggs.' ... The North Korean problem? Overblown. Japan could have stopped things years ago. The government would rather see the peninsula separated."

As for all the fuss about the anthem and flag ... every country has them, so no big deal. "I believe that 99 percent of Japanese would rather have the U.S. here than see them go home." (That alone should inspire a few letters to the editor over the next few days!)

He is especially incensed by what he regards as the duplicity of the Japanese language. "Shincho," interpreted as 'welcome,' means 'colonization.' 'Jietai'? Let's not play games here, it's an army. But I won't bore you. ... Why don't I write a book? Because it's all been said before; there's nothing new to say. I've read Karel von Wolferen and all the other eggheads who analyze and dissect this culture. Really, there's nothing I can add."

Over the last decade he has involved himself in social work, and at one time handed over a building built as a ski lodge in Gunma to Japan Helpline for free. But things didn't work out and in the end he had it demolished.

"I read a lot," he said. "I come here and read the papers, raid the library. Right now I'm embarking on a history of the Indian Raj. Like many Indians who have never lived in their country, I am passionately interested in India's past, present and future. But independently ... at long distance ..."

In the meantime Japan is home. As an Asian, V.C. Lingam is far more comfortable here than he could ever be living in, say, the U.K. or America. As a Hindu, he finds great solace in a promise his wife has made: to take his ashes to India and sprinkle them on the Ganges.

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August 17, 1999

Dear H.E. Mr. Siddharth Singh
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of India in Japan

RE: Memorial for Subhash Chandra Bose

(To Secretary: Please translate this message into English and convey it to Ambassador.)

I have been attending the memorial for Chandra Bose held in Renkoji Temple, Suginami, every year. I received the invitation for this year's ceremony from Mr. Masao Hayashi and was hoping to attend. But unfortunately, I have been hospitalized since early July, and am unable to participate in this year's memorial.

I sincerely pray that the spirit of Mr. Bose would rest in peace. I also pray for the health and happiness of Ambassador and your Embassy staff.

Sincerely

Mr. Morito Naganuma, Chairman
The Institute for Research in Linguistic Culture
16-26, Nanpeidai-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150
Tel: 3463-7261
Fax: 3463-7243

(Ms. Minako Naganuma, sending the message on behalf of Mr. Naganuma)

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送信枚数 1 枚 (本表含む)

送信日: 1999年8月17日(火)

12時20分

送信先:

駐日インド大使

シンダール・タ・シン閣下

Mr. Siddharth Singh

財団法人言語文化研究所
附属東京日本語学校

発信者 長沼守人

〒150 東京都渋谷区南平台町 16-26

TEL 03-3463-7261

FAX 03-3463-7243

件名: スバス・チャンドラ・ボース氏
慰霊祭欠席の件

代行: 長沼美奈子

MI NAKO

連絡事項:

秘書の方へ: お手数恐れ入りますが、英文に訳して
大使閣下にお伝え下さいますよう、お願い申し上げます。拝啓 毎年、杉並の蓮光寺で行われるボース氏の慰霊祭に参加
している者でございます。明8月18日の法要についても、事務長の林正夫氏からご案内
をいただきましたが、私こと7月上旬から病気入院中のため
残念ながら今年は参加することが出来ません。ボース氏の偉大な魂の御平安を心からお祈りいたします。
また、大使閣下はじめ貴館の皆様のご健康とご活躍を
お祈り申し上げます。

敬具

The Institute for Research in Linguistic
Culture
(Naganuma School)

理事長 長沼守人

Chairman, Manito Naganuma



S. Jaishankar
Deputy Chief of Mission

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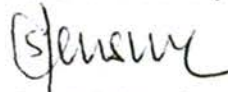
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August 4, 1999

Dear Neeta,

Shri Muchkund Dubey had left behind with Minister(Consular) an article in Asahi Shimbun on Netaji with the request that this be translated and sent to him. Our Embassy translator had already done a summary translation of this story, which is enclosed herewith. This should meet Shri Dubey's requirement. Kindly pass it on to him.

Yours sincerely,


(S. Jaishankar)

dc

Smt. Neeta Bhushan,
Under Secretary(JK)
East Asia Division,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

Encl:a.a.

ASAHI MAY 23

CHANDRA BOSE

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT-"The 100 leaders in the 21st century"

In the morning on 28 of April, 1942, an U Boat of the German Navy appeared in the Indian Ocean in the offshore of the Madagascar Islands. The Japanese submarine, "Iyo" had also surfaced near the U Boat. A rubber boat was lowered from the boat on the water. A sailor kept shooting at sharks coming cross the boat, while Chandra Bose, the leader of India's freedom movement, was aboard the boat from the U boat to the Japanese submarine for voyage to Singapore.

In the meeting with the leaders of the Axis Powers including Mussolini, Hitler and Tojo, Bose asked for their assistance for India's struggle against the UK. "I do not hesitate to work with even an evil for the purpose of gaining independence of India," Bose declared.

Bose decided to risk his life to reach Japan. On arriving Tokyo, he wasted no time to enter into negotiations with the Japanese leaders. But, Bose had to wait one and half month until a meeting with the Japanese Prime Minister was realized. In the meeting with PM Hideki Tojo in June, 1943, Bose asked for Japan's support to his plan to set up the provisional Government, urging the Japanese army to launch joint military operations with the Indian National Army to cross Burmese border to fight the British on Indian soil.

Bose explained the details of his plan to PM Tojo saying, "I hope Japan will extend full support to the India's independence movement without attaching any condition. I also hope that the Japanese army will accelerate its march toward India as quickly as possible," In reply to a question about his impression of PM Tojo, Bose said, "Such a simple and straightforward man like PM Tojyo is not suited for the position as politician in the international political arena,"

Two days after the meeting with PM Tojo, Bose was present at deliberations in the Chamber of the Imperial Parliament in order to listen to the speech of PM Tojo. "Japan will extend every assistance to India's struggle for independence, taking all necessary measures to expel the American and British force from India," PM Tojo *declared.*

"Now, I am in Tokyo. The Japanese Government has declared that it would extend full support to the independence movement of India," Bose said in his speech broadcast by NHK from Tokyo on June 21. UK was astonished to hear it. His message was hailed with great joy *among* the Indians.

In October, 1943 in Singapore, Chandra Bose declared establishment of the provisional Government of Free India. He assumed the posts as Head of the government and Supreme Commander of the India's National Army. As soon as Bose declared war on the US and UK, the Japanese army launched the military operation, marching toward Imphal.

"He looked so happy when he received letters. I still remember it clearly," Mr Kazunori Kunizuka, 82, said. He worked as an interpreter to Bose. It was found out later that those letters were from Emily, a lady he got married while he was in Austria.

On August 15, the war in Asia ended with Japan's surrender to the allied force. However, Bose had not given up his plan to *launch* the last fight for independence of India. On August 18, he was aboard on *a* bomber of the Japanese army. The bomber crashed, shortly after taking off the airport in Taipei. Bose was admitted to the hospital for treatment but died in the evening of the same day. His ashes are kept at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo. The Indian Government has not taken the ashes because many people in India believed that Bose was still alive.

(Takeuchi May 24)

1897~1945

潜水艦乗り移り日本へ

一九四三年四月二十八日朝、アフリカ・マダガスカル沖のインド洋に、ドイツ海軍のUボートがぽっかり浮かんでいた。その数十分先に日本の伊号潜水艦。ロープが渡され、荒れる海面をゴムボートが往復した。群がるサメを、乗組員が銃撃して追い払った。

Uボートから伊号艦に乗り移ったのはインド独立運動の指導者、サバス・チャンドラ・ボリス。枢軸国を渡り歩き、ファシズムの巨頭にとって反英闘争への支援を訴えた。ムソリーニ、ヒトラー、東条……。『独立のためなら悪魔とも手を握る』といい放つ男だった。



国会の女性議席確保をもとめる政治集会に、チャンドラ・ボースの肖像を描いた看板が掲げられていた。死後半世紀が過ぎ、彼の評価は高まっている＝インド・カルカッタで

100人の20世紀

サバス・チャンドラ・ボース

日本の伊予号二ナ艦に、マレー半島のペナン基地をたち、マダガスカル南東四百マイルで出迎えた。しほは収まらず、波が高かった。

シンガポールの日本海軍武官府書記官で独伊潜水艦の応対をしていた平野博さんへは、天測航法の時、荒れた大海で二隻が出会えたこと自体、奇跡に近かったと語る。

「それに、潜水艦の撃沈率は高かった。シンガポールに到着するのは十隻のうち五隻、そのうち本国に帰れるのは三隻がやっとでした」



伊予艦に着いたボースは救命具をつけ、ずぶぬれた。長旅で、顔はひげだらけだ。

Uボートがここのとき打った移乗完了の報告電が、ドイツ外務省の公文書館に残っていた。一九四三年四月二十八日十一時五十九分（グリニッジ標準時）とある。

ボースを乗せたUボート一八〇号は、二月下旬に北仏ブレスト軍港を出航。アフリカ大陸を回り、二月月かかってインド洋に出た。

命をかけて日本入りしたボースの目的は、自由インド仮政府を樹立し、日本軍にインド進政作戦を促して、ともにインドに攻め込むことにあった。そのため、東条英機首相との会見を早急に、と望んだ。

東条の腰は重い。会見に応じたのは一月後の六月半ばだった。どこ

二日後、ボースは帝国議会の貴賓席に座っていた。演壇に立った東条はボースを見上げ、演説した。

「帝国は、米英の勢力をインドから駆逐し、独立の完成のため、あらゆる手段をつくす決意である」

ボースは六月二十一日、NHKのインド向け宣伝放送で、東京第一声を発した。

「私はいま、東京にいます。日本政府はインド独立運動に対する全面的な支援を宣言しました」

ボースがドイツにいたと思ってい

ボースがアジアにいたことを知り、インド民衆は熱狂した。

ボースは、西ベンガルの町カタックで、カースト最上層のバラモンに属する富裕な弁護士の子として生まれた。

カルカッタ大学に進む。一六一年月、市電の英国人優先席禁止運動に加わったインド人学生が、英人教授に平手打ちを食う事件が起きた。

抗議ストライキが始まる。そんなある日、学生が教授を殴ってしまった。殴った学生は退学となり、級長だったボースはストを扇動したとして停学処分を受けた。

第一次大戦。戦争に勝たら自治を与えると英国が約束したため、インド人は英国に協力していた。百万を超すインド兵が欧州戦線に送り込まれた。しかし、戦争が終わっても約束は守られなかった。不満を訴えた民衆は弾圧された。

ボースは急進的な反英抵抗運動に傾斜していく。植民地政府からマークされ、投獄は十一回を数えた。

滞欧中、ローマを訪れてムソリーニ首相と会った。

「独立は改良的手段によるつもりかね。それとも革命的な方法か」

「私は革命がいいと思います」

「すぐ計画をたてなさい。革命には積み上げが必要だ」

ムソリーニはよほど気に入ったようで、四回も会っている。

ボースには、人を引きつける何かがあった。独立運動に打ち込み、私欲がなかったからだという人もいる。後に日本が戦争に敗れたとき、彼の手元には約九千万円の現金があった。彼はそれを部下にすべて分配し、自分は一銭も取らなかった。

ボースはガンジーを訪ね、いい好機だとして決起をうかしたガンジーは動かない。

「なぜかね。英国はこつても負けても力を失う。こそ非暴力で独立を達成」

「どういふときには、この手段をとる必要がある。ガンジーはしばらくを待たせた。」

「君のやり方で成功す、全力をつくしなさい方ではないが、もし成功先に税電を打つよ」

四〇年七月、十一回目

ボースは脱出作戦を練る。

十一月、ハンストを始める政府は、彼を自宅監禁ボースのおいシール・ボース医師（父は、カ）そのときのことを語って

「四一年一月十七日の、自分の車に叔父を乗せました。叔父は

「敵の敵は味方」で行動



カルカッタの女子大では歴史の講義にチャンドラ・ボースが取り上げられていた。「彼は女性の政治的役割を重視し、自由インド仮政府でも女性閣僚を起用しました」



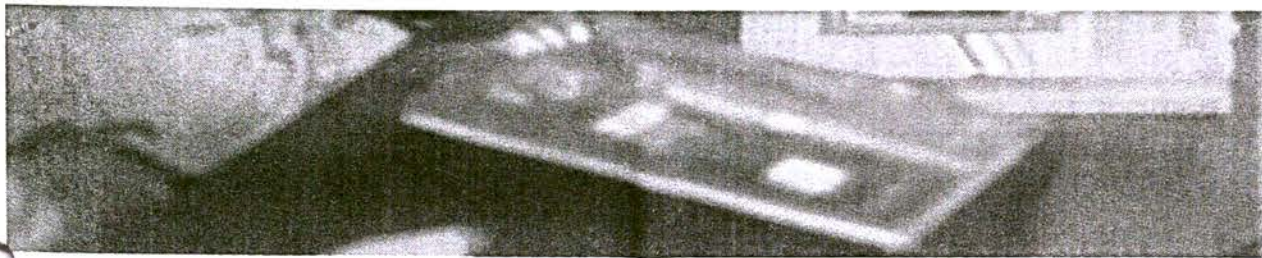
ボースは国外に追放され、ウィーンのカトリックに入院した。しかし彼は、治療もそこそこに独立運動に動き出す。

アイルランドのデ・バレーラ首相と会見 (1936年2月)
「英国から独立したノウハウを教えて」

ヒトラー大統領と会見 (1942年5月)
「インド人への偏見を改めて」



一九四三年六月
降り立ったボース



一九四三年六月二十七日、シンガポールの飛行場に降り立ったポー（中央背広）。手前左は国塚中尉



ボースがインド国民軍を閲兵した当時のシンガポール市庁舎。現在は最高裁判所になっている。

第一次大戦始まる

第二次大戦始まる
太平洋戦争始まる

日本敗戰

1897 西ベンガルで生まれる
1914
16 差別事件で停学処分
21 ガンジーと出会う
33 結核治療でウィーンへ
37 エミリーと極秘に結婚
38 国民会議議長になる
39
41 国外脱出、ベルリンへ
43 潜水艦でアジアへ
自由インド仮政府樹立
45 乗機墜落、死亡

- ドイツ工作班員が書いたボース像は「チャンドラ・ボースの生涯」(ヴェルト／新樹社)★
- 日本軍特務機関員が書いたボースは「インパールを越えて」(国塚一乗／講談社)
- 第二次大戦中の潜水艦活動、ボースの旅について「深海の使者」(吉村昭／文春文庫)
- アジアのボースについては「黎明の世紀」(深田祐介／文春文庫)
- 「インド国民軍」(丸山静雄／岩波新書)★
- 「チャンドラ・ボースと日本」(レブラ／原書房)★
- 「インド独立」(長崎鶴子／朝日新聞社)★

★は図書館などでお調べください。

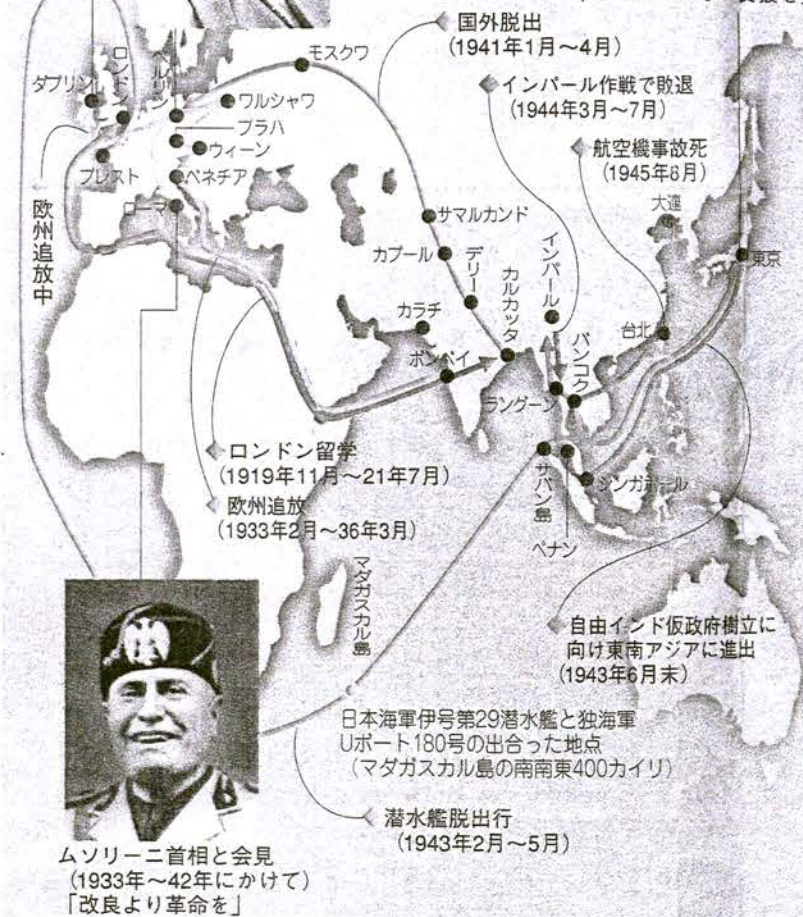
アイルランドのデ・バレー首相と会見(1936年2月)
「英国から独立したノウハウを教えて」

ホースの軌跡

ヒトラー総統と会見(1942年5月)
「インド人への偏見を改めて」

A black and white portrait of a man with a mustache, wearing a military-style cap and glasses. He is looking directly at the camera. The image is grainy and appears to be a reproduction from a document.

東条英機首相と会見
(1943年6月)
「ヒモのつかない支援を



ムソリーニ首相と会見
(1933年～42年にかけて)
「改良より革命を」

ガンジー主義と差異

インドの反英民族闘争は
ガンジーとボースの二つの方法に分かれた。

ガンジーはインド人の精神的自立を説き、暴力ではなく、不服従の抵抗で独立を勝ち取るうとした。

ボースは「武装闘争しかない」と考えた。密航までして会ったアイルランドのデ・バレーラ首相から「敵の敵は味方」の戦略を学ぶ。それが彼の政治行動の基本になった。

ヒトラー、ムソリーニ、東条英機、フアシズム三巨頭を頼ったのは「反英」の戦略だった。内面では三人を冷静に批判している。

トルコ独立の指導者ケマル・パシヤからも大きな影響を受けた。ヒンズーとイスラムの対立解消、カースト制度の克服、家族計画、言語の共通化など、彼の描いたビジョンは今日のインドにも通じるものだ。

新宿・中村屋を拠点に独立運動を進めたラシュ・ビハリ・ボースと血縁はないが、同志の関係だった。

「独立は改良的手段によるつもりね。それとも革命的な方法か」
「私は革命がいいと思います」
「すぐ計画をたてなさい。革命に積み上げが必要だ」
ムソリーニはよほど気に入ったようで、四回も会見している。
ボースには、人を引きつける何かあった。独立運動に打ち込み、私になかったからだという人もい。後に日本が戦争に敗れたとき、の手元には約九千万円の現金があった。彼はそれを部下にすべて分配した。自分は一銭も取らなかった。



三十九年、第二次大戦が始まった。ボースはガンジーを訪ね、二度といい好機だとして決起をうながす。しかしガンジーは動かない。

「なぜかね。英国はこの戦争に勝つても負けても力を失う。そのときこそ非暴力で独立を達成できる」

「こういうときには、強烈な軍事的手段をとる必要があるのです」

ガンジーはしばらく考え、こう答えた。

「門が開くと、私は運転席のドアを大きな音を立てて閉めました。警官たちに、車に乗ったのは一人だと思わせるためでした」

屋敷二階のボースの部屋の明かりは、一時間ほどして消えた。監視の警官たちは安心して、毛布をかぶって眠り込んだ。

ボースはカプールからモスクワ終

「あなたにはインドにもっとも近いところに行って、そこから攻撃を始めなさい。空路は危ない。潜水艦で運ばせてもいい」

会見の終わりに、ボースはこの独裁者に一言、注文をつけている。

「総統の著書『わが闘争』のインド認識はゆがんでいます。適当な機会に、総統の口から正当なインドへの認識を示してください」

ヒトラーは不愉快な顔で答えた。



「インドが自治政府を持てるようになるまで、少なくともあと百五十年はかかるだろう」

ボースは極秘に結婚した。エミリー・シエンクル。十歳ほど下の、美しいオーストリア人女性だ。

かしオーストリアではすでにナチズムが盛んになっており、関係を公にするのができなかった。

四二年十一月、エミリーは長女アナタを生んだ。役場には「私生児」と届けた。ボースは日本への潜水艦に乗り込む直前、カルカッタの兄サルトにこう書き送っている。

「私は危険な旅に出ます。目的地にたどりつけないかもしれません。私は欧州で結婚し、娘ができました。私に何かありましたら、妻と娘に、私に対するのと同じ愛情を注いであげてください」

東京からシンガポールに移ったボースは四三年十月、自由インド仮政府の樹立を宣言。政府主席・インド国民軍最高司令官となる。彼はそれから英両国に宣戦を布告した。もちろんインパール作戦が始まる。

陸軍「光機関」員で当時中尉だった国塚一乗（かずのり）は英語ができ、英印軍インド兵に対する説得力を買われてボース付きとなった。

アジアでの彼の身辺に、女性の気配はなかった。まれに潜水艦がドイツ

「手紙を受け取ったときのボースさんのうれしそうな顔が、今も忘れられません」

四五年八月十五日、日本降伏でアジアの戦争は終わった。しかしボースはあきらめない。前年から工作していたソ連行きにかける。

八月十八日、彼が乗った陸軍九七式重爆撃機は、給油した台北の空港で離陸直後に墜落。彼は病院に収容され、その夜、息を引き取った。

戦後、ボンベイ海軍基地で起きた反乱が広がる。四七年八月、ボースが夢に見た独立はあつてなく実現した。

ボースの遺骨は、東京・杉並の蓮光寺に安置されている。インド政府はいまだに引き取りに來ない。インド民衆の間に、ボース生存説が広く流行しているからである。

文・佐々木 芳隆
写真・鈴木 好之

文・佐々木 芳隆
写真・鈴木 好之

The Hindu
31.5.99

36

'Did Japan hand over Netaji's ashes to Nehru?

By Sarabjit Pandher

TALLEWAL (Sangrur), MAY 30. The recent decision of the Indian Government to constitute a commission to probe into the fate of the legendary freedom fighter, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, has not gone down well with some Indians settled abroad, especially in Japan and South Asian countries. They argue emphatically that the remains of the "Netaji" were handed over to the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, when he visited Japan in 1956-57.

Many of the families of Indian origin in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore recall the then newspapers reporting that the remains of "Netaji" were handed over to Nehru, by the Japanese authorities. They fear that some vested interests in India's ruling class have deliberately created confusion around the death of "Netaji" to deny him a proper place among the martyrs of the freedom struggle. They seek to know the outcome of the previous efforts to trace out "Netaji's" fate.

These settlers of Indian origin, who claim to have been in contact with those who directly interacted with "Netaji" in Singapore and the erstwhile Malaya, argue that Subhash Chandra Bose, was highly respected by the Japanese. They argue that the complete details of "Netaji's" journey from Germany till the moment when the end came was well documented with the Japanese military archives. Despite this, the accounts of "Netaji's" so called disappearance have been based on the information that trickled into India through word of mouth.

A third generation settler of Indian origin, Mr. Gursewa Singh Dhillon, narrates in details about the information he personally

gathered about "Netaji." Mr. Dhillon, whose family hails from this remote Punjab village, is now a leading businessman and leader of the Indian community in Calgary in Canada. In 1895, his grandfather, Sardar Sohan Singh and later in 1915, his father Sapooran Singh, left India and travelled eastward to reach Canada. They became the first Indian family to establish an Export and Import business house in Hong Kong in 1936 and later a shipping company in 1949.

Mr. Gursewa Singh, who was recently, narrated his family's association and his own discoveries about "Netaji," whom the Japanese referred to as "Chandra Bose." Talking to *The Hindu*, he disclosed that his father was arrested by the British and the entire property confiscated for being the then president of the Hong Kong unit of the Indian Independent League, which again was founded by "Netaji."

Mr. Dhillon, 65 now, vividly recalls that he was among the 100-odd families who met the Indian Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru and his young daughter, Ms. Indira, when they visited Osaka, Japan's industrial hub in 1956. He recalls the media then carrying major news items regarding the remains of the "Netaji" being handed over to Pt. Nehru. He is very sure of even seeing a picture in a local English newspaper there, "Mainichi," regarding Pt. Nehru receiving the urn from the Japanese authorities.

Mr. Dhillon recalls that in 1957, he met two legendary figures, Col. Jagat Singh and Major Mihori, while he was looking after the family's business in Osaka. Both had worked together in the Japanese offensive against the British colonies in Asia and in helping "Netaji" set up the "Azad Hind

Fauj" better known as the Indian National Army (INA). Jagat Singh, whose family hailed from a village near Moga in Punjab, had dealt in trade of soap in Bangkok, during the second world war. Through Gen. Yamashita, who was dreaded as the "Tiger of Malaya," Jagat Singh was among the few Indians who were inducted into the Japanese Army.

Gen. Mihori, had previously spent nine years in India and had even mastered Hindi, as part of the greater design of another Japanese intelligence expert, Gen. Fujiwara, who in turn had hogged attention after his campaigns in 1936 in Manchuria in China. Mihori who carried out espionage on Britain's interests in India under a special cell in the Japanese intelligence called the "Hikari Kikkun" which meant the "roaring torch," later became "Netaji's" main interpreter with the Japanese.

Mr. Dhillon now recalls, how "Netaji," through a plan chalked out by Gen. Fujiwara was brought to south Asia to help the Japanese in the world war. Both Mihori and Jagat Singh, indulged in propaganda to win over the Indian and Sikh soldiers respectively and recorded major successes. He says that both Jagat Singh and Mihori, accepted before him, that the INA which was formed from deserters or prisoners of the war, under the command of Gen. Mohan Singh, never fought any war with the British. The Japanese commander, Gen. Yamashita only used them to convey provisions to the soldiers on the front.

Mr. Dhillon recalls that Col. Jagat Singh, who had become an addict after the war, was brought back from Bangkok in a state of penury. One day at a bar in Osaka, they met another former Japanese Army Captain, who claimed

to have last seen "Netaji" board a plane from Hanoi. The captain narrated that "Netaji" was angry with Gen. Yamashita and said "I have been used and betrayed." The Captain told Mr. Dhillon that he received the radio message regarding the crash of the plane over Formosa.

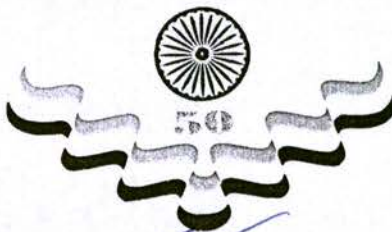
While Japan began to suffer losses in south Asia, its army began withdrawing "Netaji" sought arms for the INA to take on the British.

For finalising this, he was "allowed" to travel to Japan and hold discussions with the Japanese Commander, Gen. Tojo. Along with 11 Japanese Army Generals, "Netaji" was scheduled to reach Japan. Mr. Dhillon later discovered that while the remains of the Japanese army officers were handed over to their relatives, those of "Netaji," who was cremated, were preserved "for an opportune time."

Mr. Dhillon said that in 1971, he visited Bangkok as part of an Industrialists' delegation to Thailand. He again traced out Col. Jagat Singh, who had settled down with a native Thai woman. Col. Jagat Singh also gave a similar account of "Netaji's" death in the plane crash.



(3X)
S.Jaishankar
Minister & DCM



Confidential

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kundan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex : 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone : 0 3 (3 2 6 2) 2 3 9 1
Fax : 0 3 (3 2 3 4) 4 8 6 6
E-Mail : indembjp@gol.com

No.Tok/102/2/92

4th May, 1999

Jean Popin.

Kindly refer to your letter No.D-1530/JS(UN)/99 dated April 21, 1999 regarding the possibility of Netaji figuring in any list of war criminals. What I had indicated during our brief discussion of the subject was that the Embassy actually had papers to confirm that Netaji **did not** figure in such a list. I am enclosing a copy of the papers in question, culled from our files, for your information.

Il gbe .

Yours sincerely,


(S.Jaishankar)

Shri A.Gopinathan,
Jt.Secretary(UNE),
MEA, South Block,
New Delhi.

encl: as above

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONFIDENTIAL

भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली

No. UII/151(27)/67

New Delhi (11) the 27th April, 19 67

Subject:- Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Dear Mission,

The Ministry of Home Affairs have desired to have authentic information as to whether Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was declared a War Criminal or a Prisoner of War by United Nations War Crimes Commission. From the material available with the Ministry of Defence, as also the Historical and L&T Divisions of our Ministry, it has not been possible to ascertain the correct position.

2. This question has arisen out of a letter addressed by a certain individual to the Ministry of Home Affairs. An extract from the same is reproduced below for your background information:

"In this regard it is our considered opinion that it would be better if, in the first instance, a Committee of eminent Judges and Jurists in India be appointed to go into all the aspects of the judgement of the International Court which had declared Netaji as a war criminal in Tokyo and submit their opinion to the Government for the decision of the Parliament, if this judgement should be enforced on a sovereign state which was not a party to it at the time, more so when this judgement itself had a dissentient note".

3. We shall be grateful if you could kindly make discreet enquiries at your end and let us have whatever information you have been able to gather in the matter at your earliest convenience.



1. The Permanent Mission of India,
NEW YORK.
2. The Embassy of India,
Tokyo
3. The Embassy of India,
The Hague.

J.N. Dixit,
First Secretary.

20 39
~~Confidential~~ (24)

No.375-FS/67.

Dated the 5th May, 1967.

Dear Ministry,

Please refer to your letter No.UII/151(27)/67,
dated the 27th April, 1967.

2. We have made some preliminary inquiries with the Japanese Foreign Office and academic circles here who have given a tentative confirmation that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was not declared a war criminal. The question of his being declared a prisoner of war does not arise because he was never captured by the allies. He died a little before Japan's surrender. Our contacts in the Foreign Office have promised to give us definite information on the query raised by you in due course. Please consider this as an interim reply.

Yours ever,

Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

COPY

40

CONFIDENTIAL

Embassy of India in Japan
Tokyo

J.N. Dixit,
First Secretary

No. 375-FS/67

5th May, 1967

Dear Ministry,

Please refer to your letter No. UII/151(27)/67
dated the 27th April, 1967.

2. We have made some preliminary inquiries with the Japanese Foreign Office and academic circles here who have given a tentative confirmation that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was not declared a war criminal. The question of his being declared a prisoner of war does not arise because he was never captured by the allies. He died a little before Japan's surrender. Our contacts in the Foreign Office have promised to give us definite information on the query raised by you in due course. Please consider this as an interim reply.

Yours ever,

Sd/-

Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

~~Confidential~~
भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली

No. UII/151(27)/67

New Delhi (11) the 19/8 August, 1967

Dear Mission,

Please refer to your letter No.
375-FS/67 dated 5.5.67 regarding Netaji
Subhash Chandra Bose, declared as War Criminal.

We shall be grateful for further
information promised in the above quoted
reference.



The Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

42
15
No.534-CDA/67.

Dated the 16th October, 1967.

Note Verbale

The Embassy of India presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Japan and has the honour to state that, according to a report, the International Tribunal for the Far East set up after the last War had, in a judgement, pronounced the late Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose a War Criminal or a Prisoner of War. The late Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose, it may be recalled, was a leader of the Indian National Independence Movement and had also inspired and created the Indian National Army during the war in support of the struggle for India's independence. According to records available with the Government of India, no such reference by the International Tribunal to the late Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose is traceable. Any assistance and information that the Japanese authorities can make available, which will help trace any such reference, would be greatly appreciated.

The Embassy of India avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Japan the assurances of its highest consideration.

Not for circulation
57
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Government of Japan, Tokyo.

AK

C.D.A.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(26) (43)

S-1301/67
Confidential
भारत सरकार 79/67
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली

No. UII/151(27)/67

New Delhi (11) the 25th Oct. 1967.

Dear Mission,

Please refer to your letter No. 375-FS/67
dated 5th May, 1967 and our reminders of even number
dated 19th August, 1967 and 28th September, 1967
respectively regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
being declared as War Criminal.

2. We shall be grateful for an early reply in
the matter.

Yours ever

Kas
Seal

The Embassy of India,
Tokyo.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

A.R. Deo
Deputy Secretary (EA)

November 27, 1967

No. C/5511/67/JP

5-1305/67

2/12/67

My dear Jagdish,

Letter to Ajmani 2/12/67
Please find enclosed a copy of Mani's letter No. 375-FS/67 dated the 5th May, 1967, in which he had promised to follow up his communication on whether Netaji had been declared a prisoner-of-war after making enquiries with the Japanese Foreign Office.

2. I shall be grateful if you could kindly have it looked into and let me know.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Awin
(A.R. Deo)

Shri J.C. Ajmani,
Counsellor,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

J.C. Ajmani
Counsellor

34
45
58
Dated the 8th December, 1967

No 597-cl/67

— No (27)
Please refer to your letter No C/551/1/67/JP dated the 27th November 1967.

Despite our persistent approaches, formal and informal, it has not been possible to get an authoritative reply from the Gaimushe regarding the alleged declaration of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a prisoner-of-war or a war criminal. Evidently the Foreign Office is finding it difficult to trace the reference in the old and voluminous documentation of the International Tribunal for the Far East. As an enquiry of this nature would require painstaking research, it may be some time before we can expect a definitive answer. Meanwhile, we shall press the Foreign Office again to speed up their efforts.

With best wishes and regards,

Yours sincerely,

Yh

U/L (J.C. Ajmani)

18/12/67
Shri A.R. Deo
Deputy Secretary (EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Translation

No. 136/ASW

Ammanstr.
Committer

Paper H. H. 26/12
AA

12

46

41

GAIMUSHO

NOTE VERBALE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of India and, in reply to the enquiry made by the latter's Note Verbale, No. 534-CDA/67, dated October 16, 1962, concerning the late Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose, has the honour to state as follows:

534/25

1. As far as the records of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (including indictments, writs of judgement, etc.) are concerned, no evidence is found supporting the alleged arrest, prosecution or conviction as a "War Criminal" of the late Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose by the said Tribunal. Nor exists any evidence supporting the pronouncement by the Tribunal of the late Mr. Chandra Bose as a "Prisoner of War."
2. According to various information regarding the late Mr. Chandra Bose (including that from official documents as well as private publications), Mr. Bose was killed

killed in an aircraft accident on August 18, 1945, upon his departure from the Taipei Airport, where he had stopped on his way from Saigon to Dairen (Talien) by a Japanese military aeroplane offered him through the good offices of the late General J. Terauchi, Supreme Commander of the then Japanese Expeditionary Forces, Southern Regions. As it was not until September 11, 1945, that the arrest of General H. Tojo and other persons was started consequent upon indictment instituted against them by the Military Tribunal, it is inconceivable under the circumstances referred to above that Mr. Bose was pronounced as a "War Criminal" by the said Tribunal.

Tokyo, December 20, 1967.



43

亜西第136号

昭和42年12月20日

口 上 書

外務省は、在本邦インド大使館に敬意を表するとともに故スバス・チャンドラ・ボース氏につき照会のあつた1967年10月16日付同大使館口上書№534-CDA/67に関し、下記のとおり回答する光榮を有する。

記

1. 極東国際軍事裁判所関係諸資料（起訴状、判決書等を含む）によれば、故スバス・チャンドラ・ボース氏が国において「戦争犯罪人」として逮捕され、起訴されあるいは極東国際軍事裁判所によつて有罪の判決を受けた事実は存せずまた、同国際裁判所が同氏を「戦時俘虜」として宣告した事実もない。
2. チャンドラ・ボース氏に関する一般資料（公私の著書等）によれば同氏は南方軍司令官寺内

大将のあつせんによる日本軍用機により、台北經由大連に向かう途中、昭和20年8月18日台北飛行場出発の際、飛行機事故により、死亡している。然るに、極東国際軍事裁判所に訴追された東条大将等の逮捕が始められたのは昭和20年9月11日であつた。チャンドラ・ボース氏が裁判にかけられたり、犯罪者と宣告されたりしたということは、前記のような同氏死亡の日との関係からも考えられないことと思われる。

J.C. Ajmani,
Counsellor.

Confidential 45

33 50
No. 621 -CP/67.

December 29, 1967.

My dear

Please refer to my letter No. 597-CP/67,
dated the 8th December, 1967.

2. We have now received a formal reply from the
Gaimusho stating that records of the International
Military Tribunal for the Far East do not contain any
reference about the declaration of Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose as a war criminal or prisoner of war
by the Tribunal. Copy of the Gaimusho's Note Verbale
No. 136/ASW, dated the 20th December, 1967, is enclosed.
...

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Kh
9/c (J.C. Ajmani)

Shri A.R. Deo,
Deputy Secretary (EA),
M.E.A., New Delhi.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Confidential
भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली

No. UII/151(27)/67

New Delhi (11) the 7th March, 1968.

Dear Mission,

Please refer to your letter No. 375-FS/67 dated 5.5.67 and our reminders of even number dated 19.8.67, 28.9.67, 25.10.67 and 8.1.68, respectively regarding declaration of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose as War criminal.

2. Please expedite a reply.



The Embassy of India,
TOKYO.

We have
replied. Paper
14/3

by

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

43

52

163

NO:F.1(33)SS/64.

19th March, 1968.

S.No. (42)

Dear Ministry,

Please refer to your letter No.UII/151(27)67,
dated 7th March, 1968.

2. We had informed the Ministry (E.A. Division) on
29th December, 1967, of the position. A copy of our letter
No.621-CP/67, dated 29th December, 1967, to Shri A.R.Deo,
Deputy Secretary (EA), is enclosed for ready reference.

Yours ever,
K

Ministry of External Affairs,
U.N.Division,
NEW DELHI.



सत्यमेव जयते

(S3)
T. Cherpoot,
Under Secretary(J)

URGENT
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

139

No.C.551/8/70-JP

27/7/70

My dear *Satinder*

We will be grateful if you could collect information on whether there was any list of war criminals maintained apart from the list which was placed before the International Court which held its sittings in Japan. The information is required by Netaji Enquiry Commission and we should be grateful if the requisite information is sent to us as soon as possible.

With regards
Yours sincerely

T. Cherpoot
(T. Cherpoot)

Shri S.K. Uppal,
Second Secretary,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

S.K. Uppal
Second Secretary

Confidential

54

140

No. SS/70

76

November 6, 1970.

S. no (75)

My dear Cherpoet,

Please refer to your letter No. C551/8/70-JP dated the 27th October, 1970 about the lists of war criminals prepared after the Second World War. We have obtained information on the subject from the Justice Ministry of Japan. There are two lists - called B and C lists - besides the list (called A list) of war criminals that was placed before the tribunal of the International Court in Tokyo. The war criminals in the B and C lists were mostly tried outside Japan, in the Philippines, Singapore etc. The Justice Ministry has the complete B and C lists. They are very voluminous. Any specific enquiry can be referred to the Ministry.

Yours sincerely,

S. K. Uppal
(S.K. Uppal)

Shri T. Cherpoet,
Under Secretary (J)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.



T. Cherpoot,
Under Secretary(J)

(SS)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

77

C.551/8/70-JP

25 November, 1970

My dear

Secty in law

Please refer to your letter No.SS/70, dated 6 November, 1970, wherein you said that the Justice Ministry of Japan has got the lists of war criminals including the lists 'B' and 'C'.

In fact what we are interested to find out is whether the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is included in any of these lists. I would therefore be grateful if you could find this out and let us know at the earliest.

With regards

Yours sincerely

T. Cherpoot
(T. Cherpoot)

Shri S.K. Uppal,
Second Secretary,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

S.K. Uppal
Second Secretary

Confidential

56

142 1v

No.SS/70

December 4, 1970.

78

5 NO (77)

My dear Cherpoot,

my
Please refer to your letter No.C.551/8/70-JP dated the 25th November, 1970 about whether Netaji's name is included in any list of war criminals. We have checked it up with the Justice Ministry and Netaji's name is not there in any of the three lists the Ministry maintains.

yours sincerely,

S.K. Uppal

(S. K. Uppal)

Shri T. Cherpoot,
Under Secretary (J)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.



S-167/101/99
4/5/99

S-67/DCM/99
29-4-99



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

~~Confidential~~

(57)

A. Gopinathan
Joint Secretary (UN)
Tel / Fax 301-3413

No.D-1530/JS(UN)/99

April 21, 1999

My dear Sir,

You will kindly recall our brief discussion in January 1999, when I was in Tokyo, regarding the name of Netaji Bose figuring in the list of war criminals maintained by the War Crimes Commission. You had indicated at that time that according to information available with you, the name of Netaji did figure in the list of war criminals. We have just received from PMI New York a communication to the effect that a perusal of the archives of the Commission had revealed nothing to indicate that Netaji's name figures in any of the lists.

2. In view of the communication from PMI New York, may I request you to kindly share with us copies of the documentation that you have in Tokyo on the subject, so that we could revert to PMI New York and establish the correct position, before reverting to PMO.

Warmest regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. Gopinathan
(A. Gopinathan)

Dr. S. Jaishankar,
Deputy Chief of Mission,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

THE HINDU

Online edition of India's National Newspaper on indiaserver.com

Friday, March 26, 1999



Something's Finally Snapped

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Home Ministry plans probe into Netaji's disappearance

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NEW DELHI, March 25.

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Features

A fresh Commission of Inquiry may be instituted to settle the question of disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose nearly 54 years ago. The Union Home Ministry proposes to approach the Union Cabinet shortly with a recommendation for setting up yet another judicial enquiry to put an end to the controversy.

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At a press conference here today, the Union Home Minister, Mr. L. K. Advani, said the Home Ministry's proposal to the Cabinet would be based on the directions of the Calcutta High Court and a resolution of the West Bengal Assembly.

"The Commission of Inquiry would be such as would command confidence of the people," Mr. Advani said. He said any inquiry panel, if set up at this stage, would have to rely on documents and papers rather than on direct evidence. Earlier, two probe panels, headed by Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan in 1956 and Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla in 1970, had held the report of Netaji's death in an air crash at Taihoku, Formosa on August 18, 1945 as true. However, both the reports, though accepted by the Government, had failed to find universal acceptance.

Mr. Advani said the then Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, while replying to a question in Lok Sabha, had stated: "the majority report of the first Committee and Justice Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed...the Government finds it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time, the Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry."

Later, the question arose of bringing back Netaji's ashes from a temple in Tokyo. In the meanwhile, a writ petition was filed in the Calcutta High

Court which sought directions for a fresh enquiry into Netaji's disappearance. While disposing of the petition, the High Court directed the Government to launch a vigorous enquiry in accordance with law by appointing, if necessary, a Commission of Inquiry, as a special case for the purpose of putting an end to the controversy.

Mr. Advani said the High Court gave five specific directions in April last which would virtually guide the framing of terms of reference for the proposed probe panel.

These are: whether Netaji is dead or alive; if he is dead whether he died in the plane crash as alleged; whether the ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji; whether he died in any other manner at any other place and, if so, when and how; if he is alive, in respect of his whereabouts.

The Home Ministry convened a meeting today to take stock of the situation arising out of the High Court's verdict which was presided over by Mr. Advani and attended by associates of Netaji and erstwhile members of the Indian National Army. These included Col. G. S. Dhillon, Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, Mr. Justice (Retd) R. S. Narula and Mr. D. B. Kalamankar. Col. Laxmi Sehgal sent her written comments.

The Attorney-General, Mr. Soli Sorabjee, the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Mr. Brajesh Mishra, the Foreign Secretary, the Home Secretary, the Defence Secretary and the Education Secretary were also present at the meeting.

Mr. Advani said consensus during the discussions was that to settle the question of Netaji's disappearance a fresh judicial enquiry may be instituted and it was left to the Government to take a decision. He said his Ministry would prepare a note and place it before the Union Cabinet soon.

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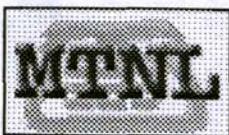
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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

www.hindustantimes.com

Online

Friday, March 26, 1999, New Delhi

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Fresh probe into Netaji 'death'

New Delhi, March 25 (HT Correspondent)

A FRESH judicial inquiry is to be instituted into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The proposed inquiry commission, slated to probe afresh the reported death of Netaji in an aircrash at Taihoku (Formosa) on Aug 18, 1945, will be third of its kind to unravel the continuing mystery over the issue.

MAGAZINE

NETFILE

SHOWBUZZ

SUNDAY

LIFE & STYLE

METRO

GOURMET FARE

ECARDS

Announcing the Government's intention on this count, Home Minister L. K. Advani said at a crowded press conference here today that the inquiry commission will be set up soon after his Ministry's proposal in this regard gets a clearance from the Union Cabinet.

Mr Advani also set at rest the controversy regarding Netaji's name being included in the list of war criminals saying that as per information furnished by the United Kingdom Government, his name did not figure in the list.

MARKET

CLASSIFIEDS

STOCKS

The terms of the proposed commission are likely to be on the lines of the directions issued by the Calcutta High Court in response to a litigation over the issue earlier last year.

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These include (a) whether Netaji is dead or alive (b) if he is dead whether he died in the plane crash, as alleged (c) whether the ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji (d) whether he has died in any other manner at any other place and, if so, when and how (e) if he is alive, in respect of his whereabouts.

The Home Ministry's decision to refer the continuing controversy regarding the disappearance of Netaji to a judicial probe was preceded by high-level meeting chaired by Mr Advani at his office here this morning.

The meeting was attended among others by Col G S Dhillon, Dr Sisir Kumar Bose, Justice (Retd) R S Narula, Mr D B Kalamankar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Brajesh Mishra, Secretaries in the Ministries of Home, External Affairs and Defence, Attorney General Soli Sorabji and other senior Government officials.

Other Stories

- Nato attacks leave 20 dead in Yugoslavia
- India relaxes visa curbs for some eminent Pakistanis
- Congress begins sniffing power
- Brave citizen Wahid now fears for his life
- 'Feminist' Jaya appoints 48 women jt secys
- ADMK MLA released after High Court intervenes again

(61)

PTI News

March 25, 1999

ZCZC PTI121

JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV

:DANA

TRIPURA ASSEMBLY WANTS FRESH PROBE ON NETAJI

AGARTALA, MAR 25 (PTI) THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF INDIA'S FAR EASTERN STATE OF TRIPURA HAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A MOTION DEMANDING CONSTITUTION OF A FRESH INQUIRY COMMISSION TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY BEHIND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF GREAT FREEDOM FIGHTER NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE.

THE MOTION, RAISED BY COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (CPI-M) LEGISLATOR SUDHAN DAS ON WEDNESDAY, SAID THE REPORTED DEATH OF NETAJI IN A PLANE CRASH HAD NOT BEEN PROVED BEYOND DOUBT AND THE REPORT OF TWO INQUIRY COMMISSIONS SET UP BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAD FAILED TO CONVINCE THE PEOPLE AND SCHOLARS OF THE COUNTRY.

THE MOTION WOULD BE SENT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SOON ALSO DEMANDING THEM TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAKING RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS IN AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY AVAILABLE TO THE SCHOLARS. PTI AJD PPPTI

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62

PTI News: March 5, 99

:OANA

FB TO LAUNCH NETAJI CHETNA YATRA ON MAR 7

GUWAHATI, MAR 5 (PTI) A LEFT PARTY IN INDIA PLANS TO MOBILISE PEOPLE BY ORGANISING A MARCH TO PRESS UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERY OF DISAPPEARANCE OF NATIONALIST SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE.

FORWARD BLOC WILL LAUNCH A NETAJI CHETANA YATRA (MASS AWARENESS MARCH) ON MARCH SEVEN FROM MOIRANG DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN STATE OF MANIPUR, WHERE INDEPENDENT INDIA'S FIRST FLAG WAS HOISTED, FOR MOBILISING PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S RELUCTANCE TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE'S DISAPPEARANCE.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ALSO AIMED AT GENERATING AWARENESS ABOUT THE IDEOLOGY OF NETAJI, WEST BENGAL AGRICULTURE MINISTER NAREN DEY TOLD REPORTERS HERE ON FRIDAY.

THE YATRA ORIGINATING FROM CUTTACK, KANYAKUMARI, MUMBAI AND JAMMU, BESIDES MOIRANG, DEY SAID, ADDING IT WOULD TRAVERSE 1600-KM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE YATRA WILL CULMINATE IN A RALLY IN DELHI ON MARCH 23, THE DAY FREEDOM MOVEMENT MARTYR BHAGAT SINGH WAS HANGED TO DEATH, HE SAID.

THE CAMPAIGN, IN WHICH INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA) MEMBERS ARE ALSO TO PARTICIPATE, WILL DEMAND AN INDEPENDENT ENQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE AND CALL FOR SOCIALIST RECONSTRUCTION OF THE COUNTRY, AS ADVOCATED BY NETAJI.

REGRETTING THAT SUCCESSIVE FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE FAILED TO UNVEIL THE MYSTERY OF BOSE'S DISAPPEARANCE, DEY DEMANDED THAT INA FILES KEPT SEALED IN THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT BE OPENED TO SCHOLARS AND RESEARCHERS. PTI ESB AHNPTI

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OT-02/Amb/99
24.02.99

OT-02/CP/99
26.2.99

O.T.C.

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

CCB No.28

From: Indembassy Tokyo
To : Foreign New Delhi

DTG FEB 241130
DTT FEB 241210
YEAR 1999

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.03

JS(CNV) from Ambassador.

Refer your CCB telegram No.1526 of 19 February 1999.

A contribution of Yen 1,000,000 (equivalent to Rs. 377,929 @ Re. 1= 2.646 Yen) was made vide voucher No.18 of 2/99 to Renkoji Temple for safe keeping of NETAJI's ashes. Formal sanction may be sent accordingly.

Ambassador

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26/02

AR



THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

www.hindustantimes.com

Online

Monday, February 22, 1999, New Delhi

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Britain 'exonerates' Netaji

New Delhi, February 21 (Jay Raina)

Residual doubts whether the name of Subhas Chandra Bose figured in the British Government's list of war criminals were set at rest with an emphatic 'no' last week.

The British Government's communication was received at the Foreign Office here, setting at rest the controversy that has raged for more than 50 years. The British clarification follows a Union Home Ministry request to the Ministry of External Affairs to seek information from the British Government on the question following the Orissa High Court's directions. A division bench of the High Court headed by Chief Justice S N Phukan had directed the Centre in October last to initiate action in order to get Netaji's name deleted from the list of war criminals. Similar directions had also been issued by the Calcutta High Court. The Orissa High Court directions followed a PIL filed by former MP and ex-general secretary of the Congress Shyam Sunder Mohapatra seeking court's intervention to persuade the Indian Government to seeking clarification.

The issue roused considerable emotion in India which ranks Netaji as a frontline leader of the freedom struggle. The petition had also appealed that a writ of mandamus be issued, calling upon the Centre to make a written declaration regarding the mysterious disappearance and subsequent death of Netaji, allegedly in an air crash in Japan. Home Ministry sources confirmed that it had received the British communication from the MEA earlier this month, indicating categorically that Netaji's name did not figure in the list of war criminals.

Sources maintained that even as setting up of a new commission of inquiry to further probe into the disappearance of Netaji was ruled out, the Government may appoint a committee senior officers to clear the confusion over the issue. "The committee may base their findings on the conclusions drawn by two inquiry commissions headed by Shah Nawaz Khan and Justice G D Khosla that concluded that Netaji died on August 19, 1945 in an air crash at Taihuko airport," sources said.

Other Stories

- PMs talk peace, sign declaration
- We won't permit war, says Vajpayee
- Stable Pak good for us, PM says at Minar-e-Pakistan
- Hauz Khas, Nangloi, go to polls today
- Lahore diary: There was romance, realism in the air
- Give us your Sikh shrines: Badal

Shingil
23.2

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AD

9:21:57 AM

17-14/Amb/99
22.2.99

17-12/CP/99
22/2/99

(65)

(P)

O.T.C.

Telegram

SECRET

CCB No.40

From: Foreign New Delhi
To : Indembassy Tokyo

DTG FEB 191100
DTR FEB 192200
YEAR 1999

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.1526

Ambassador from JS(CNV)

Reference our CCB telegram No.8358 dated 21.10.98.

2. Kindly intimate exact expenditure incurred in Indian Rupees on payment to Renkoji Temple for safe keeping of NETAJI's ashes, to enable us issue formal sanction.

Ambassador

Let me have draft reply.

Shurjit
22.2

HOC

Placed below.

16
28/2

Ambassador

Ambassador has signed the Telegram; and given to CA on date-

189
24/2/99

HOC

90

66

2/7

PTI News: January 23, 99

ZCZC PTI009
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKK JPNTOKV

:DANA

NEWLY-DESIGNED NETAJI MUSEUM OPENS ON SATURDAY

CALCUTTA, JAN 23 (PTI) THE CAP AND BOOTS WORN BY NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AS SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY AND RARE PICTURES TAKEN DURING WORLD WAR II ARE AMONG THE SEVERAL PERSONAL EFFECTS ON DISPLAY AT THE NEWLY-DESIGNED NETAJI MUSEUM OPENING HERE ON SATURDAY ON THE NETAJI'S 102ND BIRTHDAY.

THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR IN INDIA HIROSHI HIRABAYASHI FORMALLY INAUGURATED THE NEW MUSEUM HOUSED IN THE NETAJI BHAVAN WHERE HIS LIFE HAS BEEN DEPICTED THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEO CLIPS AND INTERESTING RELICS COLLECTED FROM GERMANY, JAPAN, SINGAPORE AND MYANMAR.

NETAJI'S NEPHEW SISIR BOSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU, SAID VIDEO CLIPS CONTAINING RE-ENACTMENT OF NETAJI'S GREAT ESCAPE FROM HIS ELGIN ROAD RESIDENCE, RARE DOCUMENTARIES DURING THE WAR, BESIDES THE UNIFORM USED BY HIM AS GOC DURING CONGRESS SESSION IN 1928 COULD BE SEEN BY VISITORS. PTI PB AHN ABYPTI

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(67)

PTI News: January 23, 99

ZCZC PTI001
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV JPNTOKV

:DANA

HOUSE WHERE NETAJI WAS BORN IN DANGER OF COLLAPSE

CUTTACK, ORISSA, JAN 23 (PTI) THE TWO-STORYED HOUSE IN THE HEART OF THIS EASTERN INDIAN CITY, WHERE NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE WAS BORN A CENTURY AGO, TODAY STANDS AS A MONUMENT OF NEGLECT AS THE COUNTRY OBSERVES THE LEGENDARY LEADER'S 102ND BIRTH ANNIVERSARY ON SATURDAY.

WHILE CELEBRATING NETAJI'S BIRTH CENTENARY TWO YEARS AGO, THE ORISSA STATE GOVERNMENT HAD ANNOUNCED THAT THE BUILDING, KNOWN AS JANAKINATH BHAVAN, IN THE CROWDED ORIYA BAZAR AREA, WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO A NATIONAL MEMORIAL. THE PLAN STILL REMAINS ON PAPER.

THE HOUSE, WHERE NETAJI SPENT HIS CHILDHOOD, HAS BECOME AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE AND MIGHT COLLAPSE IF NO ATTENTION IS PAID, ACCORDING TO SRIKANTA PANDA, WORKING PRESIDENT OF THE NETAJI SEVASADAN TRUST BOARD, OF WHICH THE CHIEF MINISTER IS THE CHAIRMAN.

ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO, A PORTION OF THE FIRST FLOOR HAD COLLAPSED, PANDA SAID.

THE TRUST BOARD HAS BEEN MANAGING THE PROPERTY WHILE RUNNING A SMALL 25-BED CHARITABLE MATERNITY HOSPITAL AND A FAMILY WELFARE CENTRE. IT WAS HANDED OVER TO THE BOARD'S FOUNDER PRESIDENT AND THEN CHIEF MINISTER HAREKRUSHNA MAHATAB BY NETAJI'S AUNT BIBHABATI BOSE IN MARCH 1954. PTI COR PKD AHN

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Keep in Netaji file

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16/10/01

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80 68

215

PTI News: January 22, 99

ZCZC PT1007
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV

:DANA
AIFB TO CAMPAIGN FOR RELEASE OF ALL INFO ON 'NETAJI' S C BOSE
NEW DELHI, JAN 22 (PTI) ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC (AIFB)
WILL LAUNCH A NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN FROM JANUARY 23 TO PRESS THE
GOVERNMENT FOR RELEASE OF ALL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AND
TO APPOINT A HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE TO PROBE THE MATTER.

THE TWO-MONTH CAMPAIGN PROPAGATING IDEALS OF THE LEADER
WILL BEGIN ON NETAJI JAYANTI (BIRTHDAY OF NETAJI) JANUARY 23
AND END ON MARCH 23, WHICH IS THE MARTYRDOM DAY OF ANOTHER
FREEDOM-FIGHTER BHAGAT SINGH, G DEVARAJAN, SECRETARY OF THE
PARTY FOUNDED BY BOSE, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY.

THE PARTY WILL ALSO DEMAND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
MAKE FORMAL REQUESTS TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF U.K., U.S., JAPAN,
RUSSIA, VIETNAM AND OTHERS FOR MAKING AVAILABLE WHATEVER
INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS THEY MIGHT POSSESS ON BOSE.

DEVARAJAN SAID THE DEFENCE MINISTRY HAD AROUND 9,000
FILES OF THE 'AZAD HIND FAUJ', WHICH MAY UNRAVEL SOME VITAL
CLUES AS TO WHAT HAPPENED TO ITS FOUNDER LEADER.

HE SAID THE ENQUIRY COMMISSION SHOULD BE GIVEN
PLENIPOTENTIARY POWERS TO EXAMINE ALL INFORMATION IN A
THOROUGHLY IMPARTIAL AND OBJECTIVE MANNER TO ARRIVE AT SOME
DEFINITE CONCLUSIONS REGARDING WHAT HAPPENED TO NETAJI.

CONVENTIONS ON RELEVANCE OF HIS IDEALS, PHOTO
EXHIBITIONS, VIDEO SHOWS AND OTHER MASS AWARENESS PROGRAMMES
WILL BE ORGANISED AND A PROCESSION FROM FIVE CORNERS OF THE
COUNTRY WITH THE SLOGAN CHALO DELHI (MARCH FORWARD TO DELHI)
WILL CULMINATE HERE ON MARCH 22.

THE CAMPAIGN WILL ALSO HIGHLIGHT THE DISMAL PERFORMANCE
OF THE BJP-LED GOVERNMENT, DEVARAJAN SAID. PTI AS ABY MKPTI
01220925 R
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ZCZC PT1009
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV

Keep in Netaji file

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TS (Pol) ALPS) file

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69

214

PTI News: October 24, 1998

ZCZC PT1039

JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV

:OANA

GOVT ASKED TO REMOVE NETAJI'S NAME FROM WAR CRIMINAL LIST
CUTTACK, OCT 24 (PTI) AN INDIAN COURT COURT HAS ASKED
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE STEPS TO REMOVE THE NAME OF THE
GREAT NATIONAL LEADER NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE FROM THE
LIST OF WAR CRIMINALS.

IT WILL BE APPROPRIATE IF STEPS ARE TAKEN IN THIS
REGARD, A DIVISION BENCH COMPRISING CHIEF JUSTICE S N PHUKAN
AND JUSTICE ARIJIT PASAYAT OF THE ORISSA HIGH COURT SAID WHILE
HEARING A WRIT PETITION BY FORMER ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE
(AICC) GENERAL SECRETARY SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA.

AT THE END OF WORLD WAR-II, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD
PUT NETAJI'S NAME IN THE LIST OF WAR CRIMINALS.

THE PETITION SAID THOUGH 50 YEARS HAD PASSED SINCE
INDEPENDENCE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD AT NO POINT OF TIME
REQUESTED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO DELETE THE WORDS WAR
CRIMINAL AGAINST THE NAME OF THE GREAT FREEDOM FIGHTER, WHOSE
DEATH IN THE MID 40S' REMAINS UNCONFIRMED AND THE CAUSE OF
WHICH IS STILL SHROUDED IN MYSTERY.

MOHAPATRA PLEADED THE COURT IN THE EASTERN STATE OF
ORISSA TO DIRECT THE GOVERNMENT TO PRODUCE ALL DOCUMENTS
RELATING TO THE CAUSE OF DEATH OF NETAJI AND TO NOTIFY THE
SAME BEFORE THE PEOPLE.

HIS PETITION, BASED ON A NEWS ITEM, ALLEGED THAT THE
INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAD NOT MADE ANY ATTEMPT TO STUDY SEVERAL
EXISTING DOCUMENTS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT NETAJI'S DEATH. PTI
COR UNP LISPTI

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Shuril

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There was an enquiry into this several
years ago. The Government confirmed that his
name was not on any war criminal
list.

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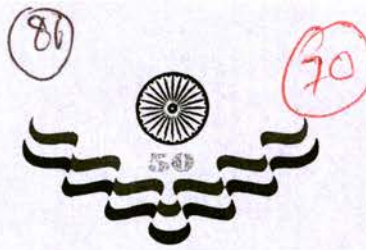
CP

6/21

AT



AMBASSADOR



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो ²¹³

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036

Fax : (03) 3262-2301

21 October, 1998

Dear Mr. Hayashi,

On the anniversary of Azad Hind Day, I would like to convey to you and all the other associates of Netaji my best wishes for continuing success in your activities. We remember with gratitude the efforts you all made jointly with the great son of India who made the supreme sacrifice in his untiring struggle to free India.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

(Siddharth Singh)

s/c

Mr. Masao Hayashi,
3000, Noborito
Tama ku,
Kawasaki 501-06

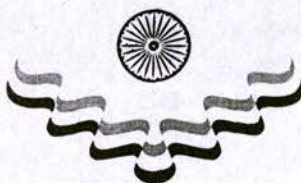
DEM

1-11/10

N 4P



AMBASSADOR



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036

Fax : (03) 3262-2301

21 October, 1998

Dear Mr. Okuda,

On the anniversary of Azad Hind Day, I would like to convey to you and all the other associates of Netaji my best wishes for continuing success in your activities. We remember with gratitude the efforts you all made jointly with the great son of India who made the supreme sacrifice in his untiring struggle to free India.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Siddharth Singh

(Siddharth Singh)

Mr. Shigemoto Okuda,
Saudi Arabian Airlines
Sanshin Building, 1F, 1-4-1,
Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo 100

Office
Phone 35061057
Fax ~~3486-8327~~
3591-9084

Residence Phone: 34071748
Fax: 3486 8327

Forwarded to Residence on 21/10



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

PREETI SARAN
DIRECTOR (JK)

No.C/415/3/96-JP

September 25, 1998.

Dear Shri Jaishankar,

Reference your letter No.TOK/102/2/92 dated September 16, 1998 regarding the return of ashes of Netaji.

2. Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter, told newsmen, while on a visit to New Delhi in January, 1998, that the ashes of Netaji should be brought to India for an appropriate memorial. Other than that, we are not aware of any new developments in this regard.

3. We shall keep you informed in case there is any fresh move to expedite this matter.

with regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Preeti Saran)

Dr. S. Jaishankar,
Minister & DCM,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

'98 09/08 TUE 15:36 FAX 03 3585 6218 TCI TOKYO

001/001

SEP 03 '98 12:20 PM TCI MUMBAI INBA AND 027 2831921

MRS. ARIFAH YAMASAKI

X To: MR. HKO/SC

SEPT 3, 19.

FM: SATISH

SAKUNDA

FYE ONLY (1) TRUST

ALL GOING FINE

TIMES OF INDIA Aug 31, 1998

THE TIMES OF INDIA, MUMBAI

NRLs ask PM to seek details about Netaji from UK, Japan

By G. Subhakar Nair

BOMBAY: Several prominent non-resident Indian organisations and individuals in Germany have urged Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee to request the United Kingdom, Russia and Japan to disclose material contained in confidential files which can throw light on the mysterious disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945.

The government has the "moral responsibility" to bring out the truth regarding the mystery surrounding Netaji with the completion of his birth centenary and India's golden jubilee of freedom, over 200 NRI bodies and individuals including Indo-German associations and Netaji's relatives said in a letter to Mr Vajpayee.

"That more than 50 years have elapsed since Netaji's disappearance is no reason for not pursuing the truth," the letter said, "conditions have never been so opportune for peering at the truth in the light of new evidence that have

been found."

Some of the crucial official documents which might throw some light on the issue have just been released by the governments of the UK and Russia, it noted.

"The weight of existing evidence which seriously challenge the air-crash story is compelling," the letter said.

The spokesman of the group which wrote the letter, Surya Kumar Bose, said members of the late leader's family had strongly objected to the "acceptance" by India of the ashes of Netaji and also any move to bring them back to the country unless proved to be so.

Before any such move, all new evidence regarding Netaji's disappearance must be "seriously" looked into, he said.

Members of the family have already drawn the attention of the government that unless it is unquestionably proved that the ashes which are now at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo, are that of Netaji,

it would be "improper" to bring them back, he said.

Mr Bose said Mr Vajpayee was requested when he was the leader of the opposition to help in setting up a national committee to probe the question of Netaji's disappearance.

The letter urged Mr Vajpayee to ensure that all relevant documents in the custody of the government relating to the disappearance of Netaji were made public and cited various evidences which raised doubts about the air-crash story.

It wanted Mr Vajpayee to take note of the reported "refusal" of the solicitor general's office to place the Government of India records on the subject before the high court of Calcutta in 1993.

"It is indeed a matter of national shame that half a century has been allowed to pass since Netaji's death was announced by the Japanese in an aircraft at Taihoku on August 18, 1945, and that the mystery of his death has remained unresolved till today," the letter said. (M)

Pl keep on Netaji

hu

1-145

M(20)

1998-09-08 16:18

79%

P.01

Fax NO.

03-3223-0996

Original required by DCM

not in the Delhi ed.



~~Confidential~~



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
 Embassy of India,
 2-11, Kundan-Minami 2-chome.
 Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
 Telex : 2324886 INDEMB J
 Phone : 0 3 (3 2 6 2) 2 3 9 1
 Fax : 0 3 (3 2 3 4) 4 8 6 6
 E-Mail : indembjp@gol.com

S.Jaishankar
Minister & DCM

No.Tok/102/2/92

September 16, 1998

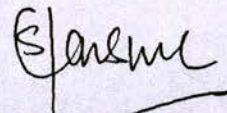
Dear Shri Rangachari,

Kindly refer to your letter No.C/415/8/96-JP dated 21st August, 1998 regarding the return of the ashes of Netaji.

In his letter of even number dated 19th August, Ambassador had enquired about the current thinking of Netaji's family. In so far as we have been able to piece together from our files there appears to be a considerable variance in the approach of different members of the family on this issue. Mr.Ashish Ray, a grandson of Netaji's brother, has in a letter to Principal Secretary to PM referred to the possibility of X-raying the urn to see if Netaji's gold tooth, which could be there, tallies with his dental record. On the other hand, Sh.A.N.Bose, nephew of Netaji has taken the position that the ashes at Renkoji are clearly not those of Netaji. Certain members of Netaji's family such as Smt.Bhakti Bose (sister-in-law) have gone to Renkoji temple, implicitly accepting that these are indeed his ashes. The views expressed by Netaji's daughter, Mrs.Anita Pfaff, on the subject are not very clear from our records.

Since the Government has taken the position that the views of Netaji's family are pertinent to the return of his ashes, we would appreciate being kept informed on any new developments in that regard.

Yours sincerely,


 (S.Jaishankar)

Shri T.C.A.Rangachari,
Jt.Secretary(EA),
MEA, New Delhi.

82

87

81A

245

208-A

21

75

Summer 1998

Dear H.E. Mr.Siddharth Singh

18 August is the anniversary of Netaji's death.

Although Indian government had recognized the contribution of Netaji and erected a bronze statue in the Parliament the year before last and had the 50th anniversary of independence commemorative work magnificently last year, return of Netaji's remains has been obscured because of complex circumstances of India.

We are planning to hold a private memorial service for Netaji this year as usual. We would be grateful if we could have your attendance.

Date : 18 August 1998 (Tue)

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Place : Renko - ji temple

3-20, Wada, Suginami - ku, Tokyo

Tel:03-3311-7832

Masao Hayashi,

Head clerk

Subhas Chandra Bose Academy

3000, Noborito, Tama - ku, Kawasaki - shi

Tel:044-900-0103

I attended the function
Singh
14-9

Don
1/14/9

14/05
14/05
21/10/98

謹啓 盛夏の折、御機嫌お伺い申し上げます。

8月18日は、ネタージの命日です。

インド政府は、一昨年ネタージの功績を認めて国会内に銅像を建設したり、昨年は独立50周年記念事業を盛大に催しましたが、インドの複雑な事情の為、遺骨返還は未だ不明のままです。今年もネタージを偲び昨年通り、私的な供養を行いますので、御参集下さる様御案内申し上げます。

拝 具

日 時

平成10年8月18日 (火)

午後1時-3時

場 所

蓮光寺

東京都杉並区和田3-20

電話 03-3311-7832

平成10年盛夏

スバス・チャンドラ・ボース、アカデミー

事務局 川崎市多摩区登戸3000

電話 044-900-0103

事務長 林

正 夫

郵便はがき

50



NIPPON

53.8.5.8-12

NOBORITO

1020074

東京都千代田区

九段南2-11

インド大使館

シタハルツ・シン大使閣下

2140014

5th August, 1998

H. E. Siddarth Singh
 Indian Ambassador to Japan
 Embassy of India Tokyo

Copy: Dr. S. Jaishankar
 Deputy Chief of Mission
 of India
 Embassy of India Tokyo

Mr. Amar Bhushan
 Minister
 Embassy of India Tokyo

Dear Excellency:

It is rather a long time since I last had the occasion to see you, and there are so many movements anywhere in the world meanwhile. It is my sincere pleasure to expect that Your Excellency would be in the best of health and be active in the important duties.

Now, Dr. Sisir Bose sent me a letter and photographs concerning two happy affairs generated between Japan and Netaji Bhawan recently. I herewith send the copy of these to you as I would like to share my great happiness with Your Excellency and the members in Embassy of India Tokyo who are close to me.

I am now recalling Netaji Bose Centenary Inaugural Convention held in Calcutta the year before last, January 1996 with deep emotion. In that convention, my old comrade of battlefield, a famous regimental commander of INA who fought shoulder to shoulder with us in the very severe battlefield in Indo-Burma front under the command of Supreme Commander Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for the independence of Indian sub-continent from the Great Britain from 1944 to 1945 who now resides in Pakistan, and many other personnel who became famous in Pakistan after the war attended that convention.

The comrades of battlefield who visited and attended the convention from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, or those who live in India talked each other taking hands and holding shoulders each other being unaware of the time passed because of the joy and fondly-remembered emotion of the reunion as if they completely forgot that the old comrades of the battlefield now had different nationalities respectively because of the border which influential persons at that time decided and that they are now in the relationship even to start another war.

I attended the function at Renkoji Temple

Cont'd/2...

Shuzi
DCM
14.9
12/14/98
AMN

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(78)

The common concept in our mind at that time was that the situation would be a little bit different from the present one in which the fellow countrymen hate and fight each other if Netaji still lives up until now.

I well understand the thought and assertion of India concerning the problem that India is now in a difficult standpoint becoming the target of the international criticism at present which makes my heart pained.

We, INA-related members gather on 18th August at Renkoji Temple as every year, and hold a small ceremony of memorial service for Netaji Chandra Bose from 1:00 p.m.

I sincerely pray Buddha for prosperity and infinite development of the great nation India, and happiness of more than 900 million of the Indian people every day.

Most sincerely yours,



Shigemoto Okuda
Old Comrade of
Indian National Army

ym
encl.



NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU

AN INSTITUTE OF HISTORY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

NETAJI BHAWAN

38/2, LALA LAJPAT RAI ROAD • CALCUTTA-700 020

206
Telephone : 475-6139

Fax : 91-33-4745070

Grams : Suvasbos
Calcutta

May 11, 1998

Mr. Shigemoto Okuda
2-21-25 Nishi-Azabu
Minato-ku
Tokyo 106
Japan

Dear Mr. Okuda,

I hope you are keeping well.

On the 28th April last the Japanese Consul General in Calcutta Mr. Noboru Kawagishi presented to us on behalf of the Government of Japan a table-top model of the Japanese submarine I-29 on which Netaji travelled across the Indian ocean during his historic submarine journey from Germany to East Asia. 28th April was also the 55th anniversary of the transfer of Netaji and Abid Hasan from the German to the Japanese submarine. We have placed the model in the newly designed Asia Room of Netaji Museum. I am enclosing herewith two photographs of the presentation ceremony.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose

Encl : 2 photographs





NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU

AN INSTITUTE OF HISTORY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

NETAJI BHAWAN

38/2, LALA LAJPAT RAI ROAD • CALCUTTA-700 020

Telephone : 475-6139

Fax : 91-33-4745070

Grams : Suvasbos

Calcutta

205

AIR MAIL

4th July 1998

Dear Mr. Okuda,

You will be happy to know that I signed a grant assistance agreement on behalf of Netaji Research Bureau with Mr. N. Kawagishi acting on behalf Government of Japan by which the latter will give a sum of a little over eightythree thousand US dollars for the development and modernisation of Netaji Bhawan and Netaji Museum. We shall acquire technological equipment with the grant for the Museum, archives and library. Two pictures taken at the signing ceremony on 26th June 1998 are enclosed.

During our last trip to Delhi last month my wife, Sugata and I had the pleasure of meeting the Japanese Ambassador and his wife. We hope to meet them again later this month.

How are you and all other friends?

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. SISIR KUMAR BASU

Encl: 2 photos.

Mr. Okuda

21-25, 2 Chome

Nishi-Azabu, Minato-Ku

Tokyo

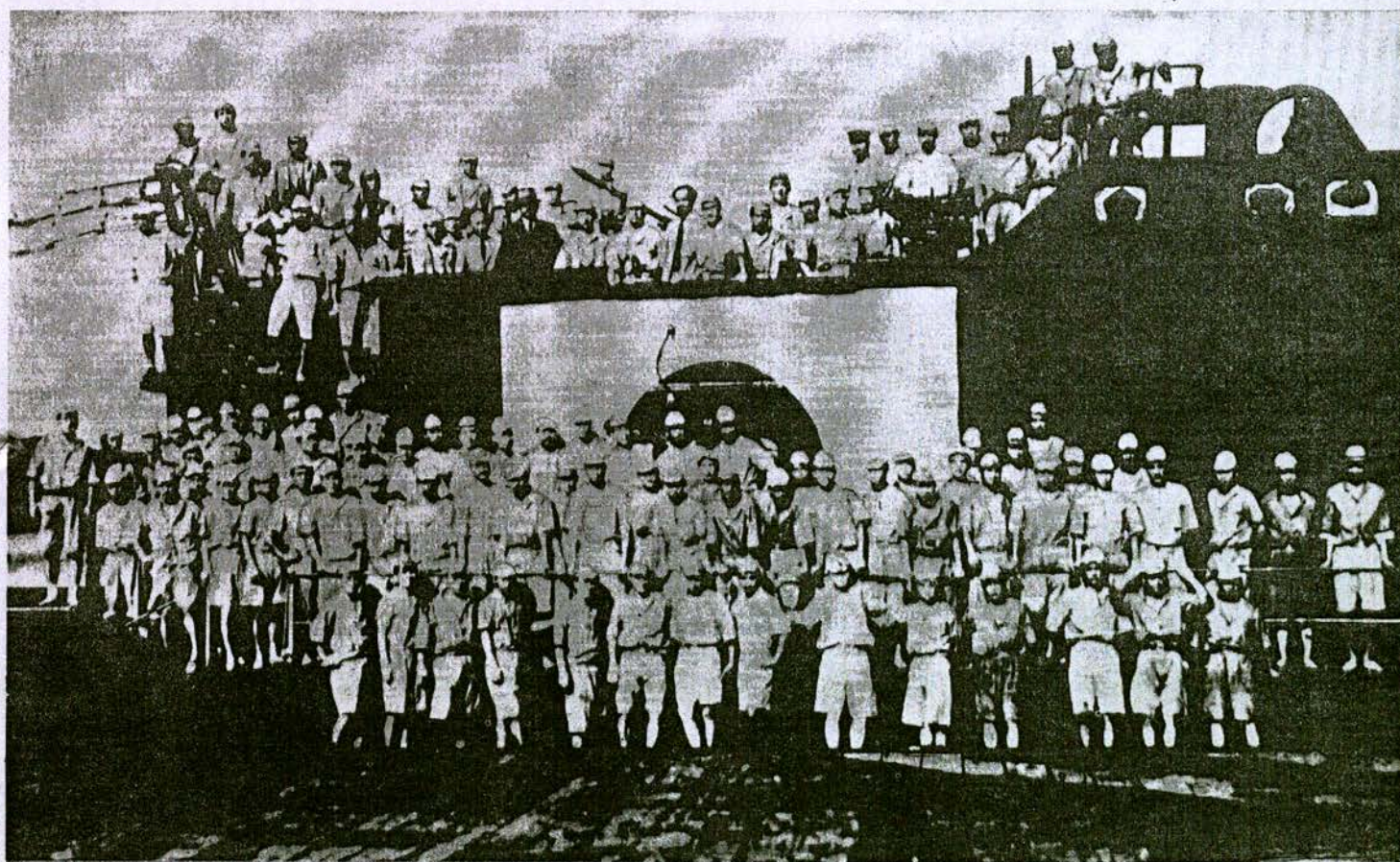
Japan







Top : Arrival and reception at Sabang, Sumatra, May 1943 Bottom : With the entire crew of the Japanese submarine



82

Verheime Reichssache

Verheime Reichssache

Verheime Reichssache

SSD MBBZ, den 28. April 1945 11:59 Uhr
Ankündigung: den 28. April 1945 12:15 Uhr

Chas. Bremer Für Botschafter Ritter,
g. Eden.

Telegramm ist
mit Gorgelei-
Gutten.
den 28.4.1945
Gorgelei-
Gutten.

U.S. Kappler
U.S. St. Pol
U.S. St. Pol
Botschafter

Letter Ad. Post.
• H. H. Post.
• H. H. Post.
• H. H. Post.
• H. H. Post.

Chief Post
H. H. Post
H. H. Post

Post Kappler St.

1.) Diejenigen Subhas Chandra Bose von deut-
schen auf japanisches U-Boot hat stattgefunden.
2.) Bose hat folgenden Punktsprung an Reichs-
auswärtiger vor Überstiegen abgesetzt:
Der Führer und Herr Reichsbürger des
deutschen Volkes und Reiches.
Bevor ich das deutsche Boot verlässe, möchte
ich Herr Excellenz und der deutschen Regierung
in seinen eigenen und des Namen der indischen
Freiheitsbewegung, für die eine erziehbare Freund-
lichkeit, Unterstützung und Gutsfreundschaft
meinen herzlichsten Dank aussprechen. Ich möchte
ferner bei dieser Gelegenheit die unerschütter-
liche Solidarität mit Deutschland in den Kampf
gegen den gemeinsamen Feind bis zum Erringen des
Endziels betonen. Ich bin überzeugt, der Tag ist
nicht mehr fern, an dem wir tatkräftiger in den
Kampfs (Botschaft) eingreifen und den ein-
gebrachten Teil an Widerstand des Gegners
beitragen werden. Im Schluss Überwende ich meine
Wünsche für den baldigen Sieg Deutschlands und
das persönliche Wohlwollen Herr Excellenz.
Unterschrift:
Subhas Chandra Bose

Herr Reichsauswärtiger von Ribbentrop,
Bevor ich das deutsche Boot verlässe, möchte

44.8. 140296
India

(Translation)

Telegram
(by radio)

SSD MBBZ, den 28. April 1945 11:59 hours
Receipt: den 28. April 1945 12:15 hours

Without Number For Ambassador Ritter,
Illegible

Note: This
telegram is
not to be
forwarded
further.
Berlin, 28.4.45
(illegible)

- 1.) The transfer of Subhas Chandra Bose
from the German to the Japanese
submarine has taken place.
2.) Bose has sent the following message
to the German Foreign Minister
before changing over:

To the Leader of the German people
and Chancellor of the German
Government.

Before leaving the German submarine
I wish to convey my hearty thanks
to Your Excellency and the Government
of Germany on behalf of myself and
the Indian Liberation Movement for
the friendship, support and hospi-
tality extended to us.....etc.....
etc....

Signed:

Subhas Chandra Bose
To Herr Von Ribbentrop, Minister of
Foreign Affairs, Government of Germany.
Before leaving the German submarine,
I am speaking.....

Top: The radio telegram
sent to Berlin from the German submarine
confirming the successful transfer
Bottom: With the crew of the Japanese
submarine before landing





Top : The life-jacket is on before the critical transfer Bottom : In the rubber-boat by which he was transferred from the German to the Japanese submarine





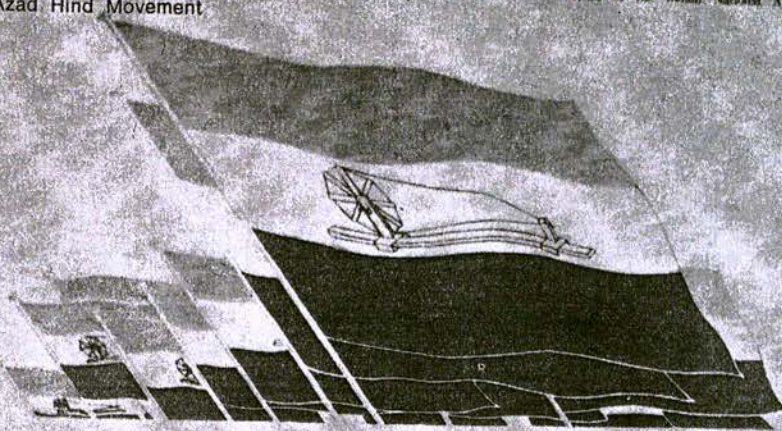
Top : With Werner Musenberg, Captain of the submarine in which he travelled to the East Bottom : With Abid Hasan on the submarine



Front page of a composite publicity pamphlet of the Azad Hind Movement

Virtual Government of Free India and Head of the Indian National Army

200

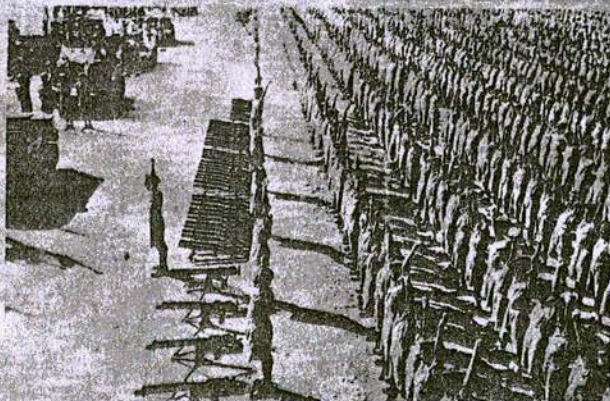


UNDER OUR FLAG OF INDEPENDENCE

An impressive scene depicting a mass review of the Indian National Army on the Esplanade Grounds at Shoran

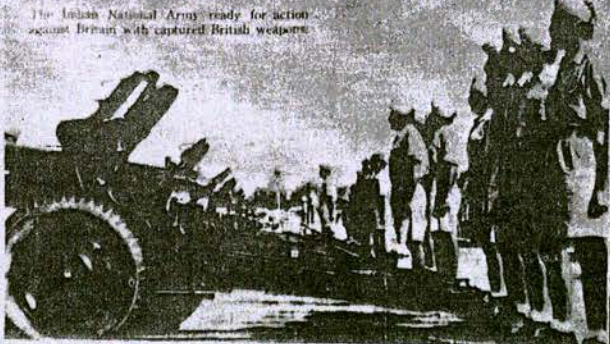


DESTROY THE ENEMY FOR FREE INDIA



CONSTRUCT "INDIA FOR THE INDIANS"

The Indian National Army ready for action against Britain with captured British weapons



Special Edition

The Syonan Sinbun

Office 140/146 Cecil Street, Syonan. Telephone No. 5471.

NO. 277

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 KOKI 26th SY. WA 19

FIVE CENTS

Provisional Azad Hind Government Declares War On Britain And U.S.A.

NIPPON THANKED FOR
FULL CO-OPERATION
AND ASSISTANCE

IMPERIAL FORCES IN
NAMPO WILL GIVE ALL-
OUT SUPPORT TO I.N.A.

THE PROVISIONAL Government of Azad Hind declared war on Britain and the United States early this morning according to a communique from the headquarters of the Provisional Government released today at noon.

The full text of the communique reads as follows: "The second meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was held from midnight (Oct. 23 Oct. 24) at the official residence of Subhas Chandra Bose.

"Advisers also attended the meeting. The political, economic and military situation in India was again discussed and the following decisions were arrived at unanimously.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind declared war on Britain and the United States of America.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind placed on record its deep appreciation of the message conveying the news of the recognition by the Imperial Government of Nippon of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind expressed its grateful thanks to the Imperial Government of Nippon for

"THE IMPERIAL Forces in the South have no hesitation to support with all means at our disposal our young comrades, the Indian National Army," declared Lieut. Col. Nakajima, Chief of the Press Section of the Imperial Forces in Nampo, in a statement issued at 10 o'clock this morning in connection with the declaration of war on Britain and the United States by the Provisional Government of Azad Hind.

The Imperial Forces in the South, in accordance with the long-held policy of support of all Indians, and their determination to fight the war alongside their young comrades, the I.N.A., until final victory.

The statement reads: "It is a matter for congratulation that Subhas Chandra Bose has declared to the world that the Provisional Government of Azad Hind has been established, as for about a century India has been divided and deprived of its independence. This time, a Provisional Government has been established by the Indians themselves.

"It is needless to say that for about two years since the outbreak of this Indo-Japanese War of Great East Asia, thanks to the brilliant success of the Japanese Imperial Forces, during and

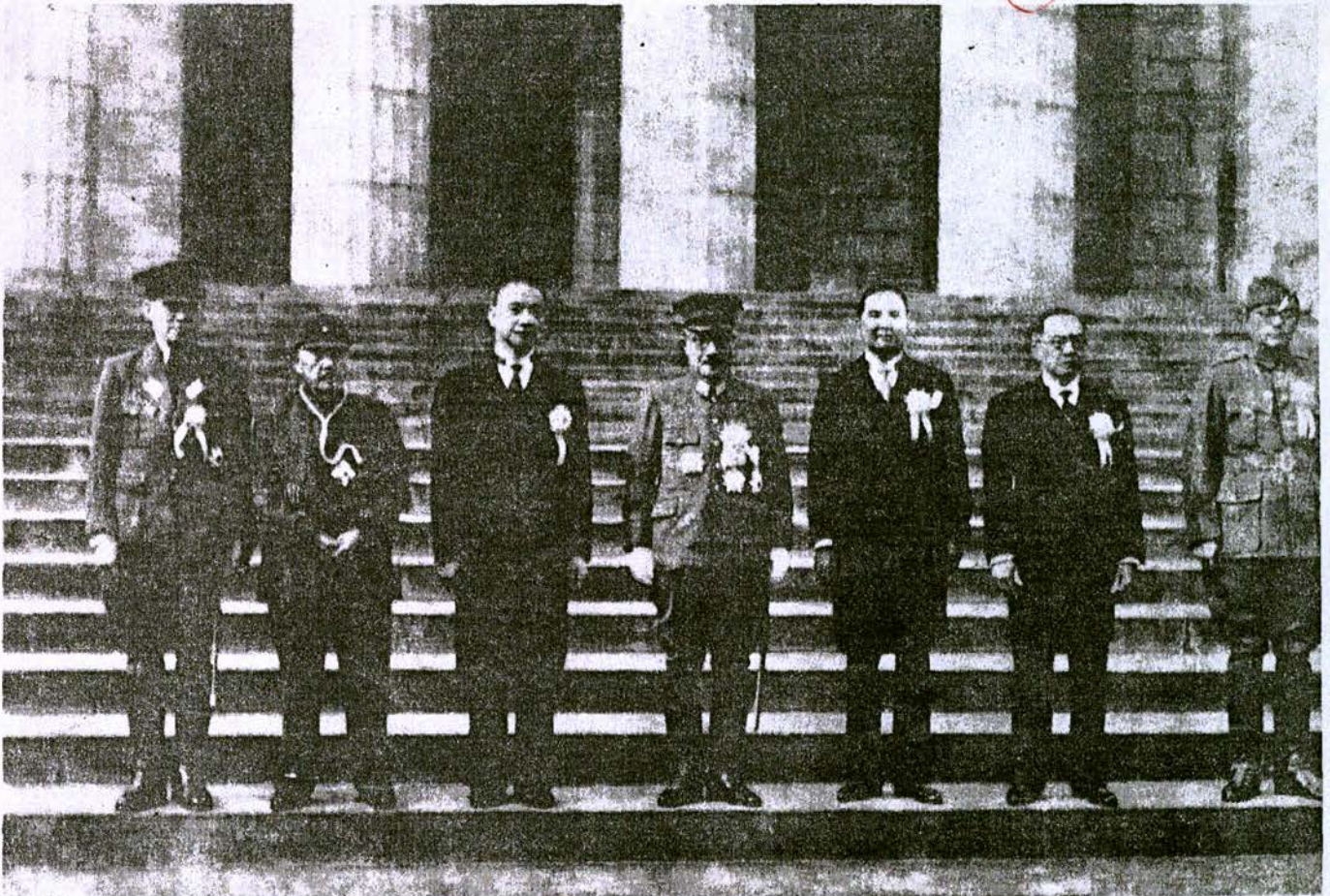
in accordance with the long-held policy of support of all Indians, and their determination to fight the war alongside their young comrades, the I.N.A., until final victory.

"It is needless to say that for about two years since the outbreak of this Indo-Japanese War of Great East Asia, thanks to the brilliant success of the Japanese Imperial Forces, during and



Top: Front page of Syonan Sinbun of 24th October 1943 Netaji receives a garland Bottom: The cabinet of the Provisional Government





Top : With Asian leaders at the steps of Japanese Parliament Bottom : A group photograph with Indians in Tokyo



88

192



Top : Indo-Japanese forces rejoice on capturing a strategic position Bottom : The I.N.A. continues to advance



(81) (89)

EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

Ambassador had desired to know the position taken by Netaji's family in respect of his ashes which are at Renkoji Temple.

(A-94) I have gone through our files on the subject. There appears to be a considerable variance in the approach of different members of the family on this issue. Mr. Ashish Ray, a grandson of Netaji's brother, has in a letter to Principal Secretary to PM referred to the possibility of X-raying the urn to see if Netaji's gold tooth, which could be there, tallies with his dental record. On the other hand, Sh. A. N. Bose, nephew of Netaji has taken the position that the ashes at Renkoji are clearly not those of Netaji. Certain members of Netaji's family such as Smt. Bhakti Bose (sister-in-law) have gone to Renkoji temple, implicitly accepting that these are indeed his ashes. The views expressed by Netaji's daughter, Mrs. Anita Pfaff, on the subject are not very clear from our records.

The Narasimha Rao Government took the position that given the opposition of some members of the family to the return of Netaji's ashes, GOI awaits a formal communication from them indicating a change of stance. We have on our records a 1991 CCPA discussion on this subject. The correspondence pertaining to the 1995 discussion on the matter is incomplete.

May kindly see.

(S. Jaishankar)
Dy. Chief of Mission
11.09.1998

Ambassador

Pass this on to JS (EA).

DCM

Shingil
15.9.98



T.C.A. Rangachari
Joint Secretary (EA)



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. C/415/8/96- JP

21 August 1998

Dear Ambassador,

Please refer to your letter No. Tok/102/2/92 dated 1998. There was some consideration given to the return of the ashes of Netaji during the birth centenary year in 1996 which, for various reasons, did not work out. I am not aware that there has been any new development in recent months.

2. You might have seen recent reports of demands for yet another enquiry into Netaji's death. Government have not accepted these demands.

3. I do hope that there would be some progress on this issue in the near future though there are not many indications to that effect just yet.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(T.C.A. Rangachari)

Shri Siddarth Singh,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo.

But what ~~are~~ is the family thinking?
Shruti
3.9

DCA

On file 1st
14/9

4/11/98
4/11/98

Aditya Singh

Ashish Roy. grandson of Netaji - host
A.N. Bose - nephew of Netaji - Not his ashes.
Khushi Bose - wife Santosh Bose - attended Netaji
Bose - nephew.



AMBASSADOR

(91)



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो 194

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036
Fax : (03) 3262-2301

20 August 1998

Dear Mr. Okuda,

Thank you for your kind letter of 19th August. Once again, I wish to express my gratitude for your invitation to attend the memorial ceremony at Renkoji Temple on 18th August. I was happy to meet a group of people who had personal association or high regard for Netaji. In remembering a great son of India, they also honoured my country. This is highly appreciated.

Thank you for the photographs. They will serve as a reminder of the occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Siddharth Singh

(Siddharth Singh)

o/c.

Mr. Shigemoto Okuda
Saudi Arabian Airlines
Sanshin Bldg., 1F, 1-4-1,
Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo 100 Japan.

Tel. 3407-1748
Fax: 3486-8327

D&M.

12/8.

OK.

12/8

AD

92

19th August, 1998

H.E. Siddarth Singh
Indian Ambassador to Japan
Embassy of India Tokyo
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0074

Dear Excellency:


Please accept my sincere gratitude for Your Excellency who are extremely busy to attend the small ceremony of memorial service for Netaji Chandra Bose which we held at Renkoji Temple yesterday.

Although our members, old comrades of battlefield have reduced to about ten this year including Mr. Negishi of 94 years old attended there by wheelchair whom I introduced to Your Excellency, about 40 general admirers who memorize that 18th August is the anniversary of Netaji's death visited Renkoji Temple and all of them were deeply moved by Your Excellency's warmhearted speech.

Especially, Mr. Negishi whose physical condition does not usually allow him to go out stated in tears, " today was truly a happy, nice day for me to be able to attend the ceremony of memorial service, meet His Excellency the Ambassador, and was given kindhearted words of sympathy from His Excellency." He was one of the old members of Hikari-Kikan who received Netaji when he landed from the submarine to Saban Naval Base in Sumatra, and he also worked as the liaison officer of Netaji afterwards for a long time.

I pray Buddha for the best of health and splendid activities of Your Excellency from the bottom of my heart together with the old comrades of Indian National Army every day.

Most sincerely yours,


Shigemoto Okuda
Old comrade of INA in
Japan

ym

Copy: Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose
Chairman
Netaji Bhawan
Calcutta, India
Fax: 91-33-474-8255

93

19th August, 1998

Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose and
Mrs. Krishna Bose
Netaji Bhawan
38/2, Lala Lajpat Rai Road
Calcutta-700 020, India
Fax: 91-33-474-8255

Dear Dr. Bose-san & M.P. Mrs. Bose-san:

The ceremony of memorial service for the late Netaji Chandra Bose annually held by us, old comrades of INA in Japan was taken place at Renkoji Temple yesterday specially attended by Indian Ambassador to Japan, H.E. Siddarth Singh and about 40 admirers from the general public. Although the scale was small, it was very warmhearted and significant assembly. As I am herewith attaching a copy of the letter of appreciation dispatched from myself to H.E. Siddarth Singh, and send you the photographs under a separate cover, please imagine the atmosphere.

While I distributed copies of the two of your letters to me, one regarding the model of Japanese submarine I-29 dated 11th May, another one concerning Grant assistance agreement between Netaji Bhawan and the Japanese Government dated 7th July, and the photographs respectively attached to the two letters at the meeting after the ceremony, all of them were greatly impressed. As I have already sent H.E. Siddarth Singh the above-mentioned two letters and photographs with a letter in advance, I also attach the copy of this letter.

I was hospitalized for about three weeks until last week, and Dr. Kobayashi was also in the hospital at the same period. He was talking the memory of yourself very longingly and enthusiastically, and pleasantly told me that he will potentially be able to see you at the Pediatrics Society of Asia held in Taiwan in the next April. Please let me know whether you are possibly going to attend the Society or not since I would like to advise it to Dr. Kobayashi.

Meanwhile, I sincerely wish you, your family, and friends in Netaji Bhawan the best of health and happiness.

Most sincerely yours,



Shigemoto Okuda
Old comrade of INA in
Japan

ym
attach.



AMBASSADOR



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036
Fax : (03) 3262-2301

Confidential

19 August 1998

F.No.Tok/102/2/92

Dear *Rangar*

Every year, the Death Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is observed in a simple ceremony at Renkoji Temple where his ashes have been kept since his body was brought back to Japan. I attended the ceremony yesterday along with some Japanese associates of Netaji and some family members of those who had known him personally. To the chanting of Sutras by the Head Priest of Renkoji Temple, everyone offered incense in traditional homage in front of Netaji's photograph and stood in silent remembrance.

In a brief conversation separately, I thanked the Head Priest for the care with which the ashes of a great son of India was being maintained at the Temple. The Head Priest said it was his duty to do so. He added it was their wish that the ashes should be returned to India, but there had been no development recently in this regard. I said the ashes belong to the family and we had to await their concurrence to take them back.

You are aware that even the Government of Japan has raised this matter with us in the past, the last occasion being the visit of Foreign Minister Ikeda to New Delhi in July 1997. I do not know if MEA is in touch with the family or is aware of their current thinking. Please keep us informed in this regard.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

Siddharth

(Siddharth Singh)

dc

Shri T.C.A. Rangachari
Joint Secretary (EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

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PTI News: August 9, 1998

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JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKK JPNTOKV

:DANA

PEOPLE MUST EMULATE INA EXAMPLE: KRISHAN KANT
NETAJI

NEW DELHI, AUG 9 (PTI) VICE PRESIDENT KRISHAN KANT SUNDAY
SAID THE PEOPLE MUST EMULATE THE EXAMPLE OF INDIAN NATIONAL
ARMY (INA) WHERE THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMMUNAL OR PAROCHIAL
SENTIMENTS.

OPENING A SEMINAR ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE'S
CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA, HE SAID
EVEN MAHATMA GANDHI HAD OBSERVED THAT THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT
OF THE INA WAS TO GATHER MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL RELIGIONS AND
ETHNIC GROUPS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND INFUSE IN THEM THE
SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY AND ONENESS.

THE VICE PRESIDENT SAID NETAJI HAD OPINED THAT FREEDOM
WOULD LACK THE REAL MEANING IF IT WAS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY, WHICH, HE SAID, WOULD BE
POSSIBLE THROUGH A NON-DOGMATIC AND NON-DOCTRINAIRE APPROACH,
AN OFFICIAL RELEASE SAID.

NETAJI'S VISION OF INDIA RESULTED FROM HIS DEEP
UNDERSTANDING OF THE FORCES OF WORLD HISTORY AND INDIA WAS A
SIGNIFICANT MOVER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER, KANT SAID, ADDING
THAT IN THE NEXT PHASE OF HISTORY INDIA SHALL BE CALLED UPON
TO MAKE SIMILAR CONTRIBUTIONS. PTI ARC SYM KRNPTI
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PTI News July 15, 98

NETAJI : GOVERNMENT WEDNESDAY INDICATED IN RAJYA SABHA THAT THERE WAS NO MOVE TO SET UP ANY NEW INQUIRY INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE IN AUGUST 1945. REPLYING TO A QUESTION WHETHER GOVERNMENT WOULD HONOUR FORMER PRIME MINISTER MORARJI DESAI'S +COMMITMENT+ TO APPOINT A COMMISSION ON NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE, HOME MINISTER L K ADVANI QUOTED FORMER PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT IN LOK SABHA THAT +NO USEFUL PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY HAVING ANY FURTHER ENQUIRY.+

Keep in Netaji's file

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PTI - June 26 '98

:DANA :

JAPANESE GRANT FOR NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU
NETAJI

CALCUTTA, JUNE 26 (PTI) JAPAN ON FRIDAY SANCTIONED A GRANT OF RS 3.5 MILLION TO NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS MUSEUM PROJECTS.

THE GRANT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN DIRECTOR, NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU (NRB), DR SISIR KUMAR BOSE AND CONSUL GENERAL OF JAPAN N KAWAGISHI HERE IN EASTERN INDIAN METROPOLIS, NRB SOURCES SAID.

THE GRANT WILL BE USED FOR PURCHASING NECESSARY MODERN EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TO HELP PRESERVE RARE HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, FILMS AND RELICS RELATING TO NETAJI AND HIS FREEDOM MOVEMENT.

JAPAN GOVERNMENT'S GESTURE WOULD NOT ONLY STRENGTHEN INDO-JAPAN RELATIONS BUT WOULD ENABLE THE RESEARCH BUREAU TO PRESENT TO THE PEOPLE THE BEST AND MOST TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED BIOGRAPHICAL AND MODERN HISTORY MUSEUM IN SOUTH ASIA, DR SISIR BOSE SAID. PTI AKG AA AHNPTI
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ZCZC PTI005
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKK JPNTOKV

:DANA

AIFB DEMAND FOR INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE
BOSE

NEW DELHI, MAY 15 (PTI) INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING
A DEMAND BY THE ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC (AIFB) TO SET UP A
COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF
GREAT LEADER OF THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE, NETAJI
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE IN 1945.

PRAMOD MAHAJAN, POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE PREMIER, ATAL
BIHARI VAJPAYEE, ALSO ASSURED AN AIFB DELEGATION THAT THE
GOVERNMENT WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE ISSUE AND
BELIEVED THAT THE NATION HAD A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO
BOSE, AIFB SECRETARY G DEVARAJAN, WHO ALONGWITH JAYANTA ROY
(MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT) MET MAHAJAN, SAID IN A RELEASE.

THE FORWARD BLOC HAS ALREADY SUBMITTED A MEMORANDUM TO
THIS EFFECT TO VAJPAYEE. THEY HAVE ALSO SUBMITTED A COMPLETE
FILE OF CASE HISTORY WHICH INCLUDES DOCUMENTS RELATING TO
NETAJI'S PLAN TO GO TO RUSSIA, ANALYSIS OF NETAJI INQUIRY
COMMITTEE REPORT AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE REPORTS. PTI AB PP
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PTI News May 3, 98

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JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKK JPNTOKV

:OANA

WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT ACQUIRES NETAJI HOUSE AT KURSEONG
NETAJI

SILIGURI, MAY 3 (PTI) THE EASTERN INDIAN STATE OF WEST
BENGAL WILL SOON SET UP THE NETAJI INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN
STUDIES AT THE GIDDA PAHAR RESIDENCE OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA
BOSE, COUNTRY'S FIREBRAND FREEDOM FIGHTER AND FOUNDER OF THE
RADICAL POLITICAL OUTFIT, FORWARD BLOC.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT RECENTLY ACQUIRED THE DILAPIDATED
HOUSE IN KURSEONG IN THE DARJEELING HILLS, IN WHICH NETAJI HAD
BEEN INTERNED FOR A LONG TIME, JUNIOR HIGHER EDUCATION
MINISTER SATYA SADHAN CHAKRABORTY SAID ON SATURDAY.

THE INSTITUTE WILL BE A JOINT VENTURE OF THE STATE
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH
BENGAL. PTI UBR PKA KRNPTI
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PTI News April 29, 98

ZCZC PT1085
JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV

:DANA

BIRTH PLACE OF NETAJI TO BE DECLARED NATIONAL MONUMENT
NETAJI

CUTTACK, APR 29 (PTI) THE BIRTH PLACE OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE, WIDELY ACCLAIMED AS ONE OF THE LEADING LIGHTS OF INDIAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE, IN ORIYA BAZAR IN THIS EASTERN CITY WILL SOON BE DECLARED A NATIONAL MONUMENT BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY (BJP) LAWMAKER BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB, TOLD REPORTERS HERE TUESDAY THAT HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI HAD ASSURED THAT THE BUILDING WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO A MUSEUM AND GIVEN THE STATUS OF A NATIONAL MONUMENT.

A SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ON THE BUILDING - JANAKINATH BHAVAN - WOULD ALSO BE RELEASED AT THE EARLIEST.

SEVERAL OTHER NEW PROJECTS WERE IN THE PIPELINE, MAHTAB, WHO ALSO EDITS THE PROMINENT ORIYA DAILY PRAJATANTRA, SAID.

THEY INCLUDED A RS 900 MILLION PROJECT FOR CUTTACK'S UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE SYSTEM WHICH HAD BEEN SUBMITTED BEFORE MINISTER FOR URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT, HE SAID. PTI COR

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"For Netaji File"

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(101) (71)

"The Tokyo Shimbun" morning edition December 21, 1997

Historically evaluate father's fairness regardless of parties
Ms. Anita Bose Puff, only daughter of Chandra Bose, Hero of India's
independence says, What he hated is British rule
 (Mumbai = V. Gupta)

"The cold war is over. historical evaluation of my father should be done fairly from a standpoint without adhering to a party." I interviewed Ms. Anita Bose Puff (57), the only daughter of a hero of India's independence when she came back for the centennial celebration of Bose's birthday from Germany, where she emigrated.

Ms. Anita is an economics professor in Germany, the country, where her husband was brought up. She was only five years old when Bose, who is highly popular nationally in India as a father of independence, was killed by a plane crash over Tai-pei sky in the year in which the war ended.

— There are people, who criticise Bose as a blind patriot...

"My father devoted all his life fighting for political justice and socialism." He was the first patriot, whom India produced. What he hated was not Britain, but the British control."

— What could be a lesson one could learn from the World War II...

"Young people, especially those from Germany have to have the sense of political discretion and responsibility." Irresponsibility before the war created irresponsible politicians and allowed them to hold powers."

"Invasion of war however could not ever be justifiable. Because the condition of those countries except the US were economically equal to the defeated countries."

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Pl. keep in file re
S.C. Bose.

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- Bose had cooperated with the former Japanese army and organised Indian National Army and tried to attain independence for his native land, but he did not succeed. What was the cause of failure?

"Failure to armed insurgence was obvious in terms of economic rule. Bose was dependent strategically and financially on the Japanese Military. However, Japan that time was in extreme financial difficulty."

Bose's remains lie in Renkoji Temple, Suginami-ku, Tokyo. There is a move to seek return of his ashes to his homeland. But there are the other side of voices, which question the authenticity of the ashes, just as followers of Bose, who still believe that Bose is alive.

- What would happen to the ashes in Renkoji Temple?

"It is a complex issue, which concerns the diplomatic relations between Japan and India. Therefore, circumspect approaches are required between the two countries."

(M. Motegi)

22/12/97

「父の歴史評価、党派にこだわらず公正に」

「既に冷戦も終わった。父の歴史評価も党派にこだわらない立場から公正になされるべきです」——インド独立の英雄チャンドラ・ボースの一人娘アニタ・ボース・パフさん(金髪)が、ボース生誕百周年祭のため居住国のドイツから一時帰国したのを機に話を聞いた。(ムンバイ・ボンベイで、V・グプタ、写真も)



インド独立の英雄チャンドラ・ボースの一人娘
アニタ・ボース・パフさん

アニタさんは、夫の故郷ドイツで経済学を講じる大学教授。インド独立の父として今も故国で国民的人気の高いボースが、終戦の年に台湾上空で飛行機事故死した時まだ五歳だった。

——チャンドラ・ボースを盲目的愛国者と評する人もいるが。

「父は、社会正義、政治的正義に一生を尽くした。インドが生んだ初めての愛国者だった。彼が憎んだのは、英国そのものではなく英国による統治だった」

——第二次大戦に教訓があるとしたら。

「青年たち、とくにドイツの青年たちが政治的な思慮、責任を感じなくてはならない、ということだ。戦前の無責任さが無責任な政治的指導者の出現と権力獲得を許した」

「侵略戦争は、いかなる場合でも正当化できない。なぜなら、第二次大戦の勝利国を見ても、米国を除いて、すべての国が経済的には敗戦国同様だったからだ」

——ボースは旧日本軍と提携、インド国民軍を結成し、武力で祖国独立を図ったが失敗した。失敗の原因

彼が憎んだのは英国の統治だ

は。

「経済原則からしても、武力はつ起の失敗は明らかだった。ボースは戦略面でも補給面でも日本軍に依存したが、当時、日本は既に経済的に困窮を極めていた」

ボースの遺骨は東京・杉並の蓮光寺にある。その遺骨の故国復讐を求める動きがある半面で、ボースはまだ生きていると信じるボース信奉者のようにその遺骨の真偽を疑問視する声もある。

——蓮光寺の遺骨の行方は。

「これは日本とインドの外交問題にもかかわる複雑な問題だ。両国間での慎重な対応が必要だ」

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PTI - 14.11.1997

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ZCZC PTIO11
 JPNTOKK JPNTOKP JPNTOKV JPNTOKV

:OANA

BJP DEMANDS 'APOLOGY' FROM COMMUNISTS ON NETAJI

BJP

CALCUTTA, NOV 13 (PTI) INDIA'S MAIN OPPOSITION BHARATYA JANTA PARTY (BJP) ON WEDNESDAY WELCOMED 'BELATED REALISATION' OF THE WEST BENGAL STATE CHIEF MINISTER JYOTI BASU ABOUT THE COMMUNISTS' 'WRONG EVALUATION' OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AND DEMANDED 'AN APOLOGY' TO THE COUNTRYMEN.

THE BJP'S ALL-INDIA SECRETARY AND WEST BENGAL UNIT CHIEF TAPAN SIKDAR AND STATE SECRETARY RAHUL SINHA SAID IT WAS 'HEARTENING' THAT BASU HAD OF LATE 'REALISED' THE ROLE OF NETAJI AND INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY'S (INA) CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT.

THEY SAID THAT THE COMMUNISTS' SHOULD PUBLISH THEIR FRESH EVALUATION OF NETAJI IN BOOKS AND TENDER 'APOLOGY' TO THE NATION FOR THEIR 'MISDEEDS' TOWARDS NETAJI.

ACCORDING TO THEM, THE COMMUNIST PARTIES AND CONGRESS 'PREFERRED TO IGNORE NETAJI BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE'. EVEN TODAY, THEY ALLEGED, THESE PARTIES 'FAILED' TO EVALUATE HIS HISTORIC ROLE DURING FREEDOM STRUGGLE. PTI PB PR RKS KRN HKPTI

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Keep in Netaji file

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18.11.97

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21st October 1997

H. E. Siddharth Singh
The Ambassador of India
Embassy of India Tokyo

Dear Excellency:

We, old comrades in Japan of INA commanded by Netaji Chandra Bose are truly thankful to be invited to the dinner celebrating Azad Hind Day.

We sincerely wish bright and great development of India, and the best of health and happiness of Your Excellency and your wife.

Most sincerely yours,


Shigemoto Okuda

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As on 16.10.97

**List of Invitees to Reception on the
occasion of 'Azad Hind Day' at Ambassador's Residence
on Tuesday, October 21, 1997 at 1800 hrs**

- 1-3 Mr. & Mrs. Shigemoto Okuda, 21-15, 2 Chome, Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo-100
(will be attending with their son) (Tel: 3407-1748; Fax: 3486-8327)
- 4-5 Mr. & Mrs. Chikaro Fujii, 1-9-12, Tsuga, Wakabaku, Chiba-265 (Tel: 0432-32-3100)
6. Mr. Masao Hayashi, 3000, Noborito, Tamaku, Kawasaki, 501-06 (Tel: 044-900-0103)
7. Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi, 1-6-13, Nakamachi, Meguro-ku, Tokyo-153(Tel: 3712-7955)
8. Mr. Katsumi Murata, 1101, 3-11-6, Takashimadaira, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo-195
(Tel: 3935-1172)
9. Mr. Gintaro Miyake, 3-18, Daimancho, Meito-ku, Nagoya-465 (Tel: 052-703-0248)
- 10-11 Rev. & Mrs. Koshi Mochizuki, Chief Priest, Renkoji Temple, 3-30-20 Wada,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo-166 (Tel: 3311-7832; Fax: 3316-7751)
12. Mr. Tadamoto Negishi, 5-8-6, Narita-Higashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo-166
(Tel: 3391-3078) (Not sure - May come)
- 13-14 Mr. & Mrs. Morito Naganuma, 5-14-1, Shimomeguro, Meguro-ku, Tokyo-157
(Tel: 3712-1720)
15. Mr. Ichijo Kunizuka, 2-1-19, Sumiyoshi-Higashi, Higashinada-ku, Kobe-658
(Tel: 078-851-3844)
16. Mr. Hisao Ohyashiki, 3-54-11-902, Wada, Suginami-ku, Tokyo-166 (Tel: 3311-9964)
17. Mrs. Mieko Tsukamoto, 4-37-16, Izumi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo-168(Tel: 3328-2797)
18. Mrs. Fukuko Tadokoro, 1-47-8, Arakaa, Arakawa-ku, Tokyo-116(Tel: 3891-5920)
19. Mr. Tadao Iwahara, 5-C, Nakamine-Mansion, 5-1-27, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo-
107

EMASSY (7 persons)

Dr. S. Jaishankar, Deputy Chief of Mission

Mr. & Mrs. Amar Bhushan, Minister (Consular)

Ms. T. Takeuchi, Interpreter

Ms. K. Somekawa, Interpreter

Host and Hostess

(107)

RESPONSE AWAITED: (3 persons)

- Mr. Tatsuo Izumi, 2886-13, Yayoicho, Tokorozawa-359 (Tel: 0429-24-2179)
- Mrs. Nobuko Nagasaki, 4-10-23-303, Higashi, Takaido, Suginami-ku, Tokyo (Tel: 3335-7753)
- Mr. Hidenori Esho, 5-9-10-101, Ochiai, Tamashi, Tokyo-206 (Tel: 0423-72-0004)

REGRETTED BY :

Mr. Gaku Kuwahara, 2-29-12, Shirayuri, Izumi-ku, Yokohama-shi 245
(Tel: 045-811-2567)

Mr. Yoshikichi Ishikawa, Room-1101, Central-Height, Azabu-Jyuban, Minato-ku,
Tokyo-105 (Tel: 3454-3890)

Mr. Keisuke Ito, 4-6-16-333, Kamiosaki, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo-141 (Tel: 3493-0372)

Mr. Toshio Matsushige, 1-1-40, Fujigaoka, Ninomiya-cho, Nakagun, Kanagawa-ken
259-01 (Tel: 0463-73-2266)

Mr. Masao Ueda, 188-34, Sakuramachi, Hirao-cho, Kumagegun, Yamaguchi-ken-742
(Tel: 08205-6-4291)

Mr. Yasumasa Mizuno, 2-18-12, Ohoka, Minami-ku, Yokohama-232

Mr. Takashi Kobayashi, 14 Kangakuin-cho, Nishi-nokyo, Nakakyo-ku, Kyoto-shi 604
(Tel: 075-841-2753)

Mr. Kazuko Matsushima, 5-1-10-702, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo-107
(Tel: 5485-0887)

DR. Jaishankar
Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of India
Tokyo, Japan

10th Oct. 1997

Attn. Ms Neeta

Additional List of Old Comrades and
People concerned with Indian National Army
Commanded by Netaji Chandra Bose.

Tadamoto Negishi	5-8-6, Narita-Higashi, Suginamiku, Tokyo 166	Tel: 3-3391-3078
Morito Naganuma	5-14-1, Shimomeguro, Meguroku, Tokyo 157	: 3-3712-1720
Ichijo Kunizuka	2-1-19, Sumiyoshi-Higashi, Higashinadaku, Kobe 658	: 078-851-3844
Yasumasa Mizuno	2-18-12, Ohoka, Minamiku Yokohama 232	
Takashi Kobayashi	14, Kangakuincho, Nakakyoku, Kyoto 604	: 075-841-2753
Hisao Ohyashiki	3-54-11-902, Wada, Suginamiku Tokyo 166	: 3-3311-8964
Keisuke Ito	4-6-16-333, Kamiosaki, Shinagawaku, Tokyo 141	: 3-3493-0372
Toshio Matsushige	1-1-40, Fujioka, Ninomiya- cho, Nakagun, Kanagawaken 259-01	: 0463-73-2266
Masao Ueda	188-34, Sakuramachi, Hiraicho, Kumagegun, Yamaguchiken 742	: 08205-6-4291
Mieko Tsukamoto (Mrs)	4-37-16, Izumi, Suginamiku, Tokyo 168 (Wife of Late- Mr Tsukamoto)	: 3-3328-2797
Fukuko Tadokoro (Mrs)	4-47-8, Arakawa, Arakawaku, Tokyo 116 (Wife of Late-Mr Tadokoro)	: 3-3891-5920
Yasufumi Mochizuki	Renkoji-Temple, 3-30-20, Wada, Suginamiku, Tokyo 166 (Priest of Renkoji-Temple)	: 3-3311-7832
Kazuko Matsushima	5-1-10-702, Minami-Aoyama, Minatoku, Tokyo 107 (Sponsor of Renkoji Temple)	: 3-3-5485-0887
Nobuko Nagasaki (Mrs)	4-10-23-303, Higashi, Takaido, Suginamiku, Tokyo (Professor of Tokyo University, History of Independence of India)	: 3-3335-7753
Hidenori Esho	5-9-10-101, Ochiai, Tamashi, Tokyo 206 (Professor of Hosei University, Economy of India)	: 0423-72-0004

21 Oct 6.00 pm.

Dr Jaishankar
Deduty Chief of Mission
Embassy of India
Tokyo, Japan
FAX: 3262-1273

8th Oct. 1997

Azad Hind Day.

Reception at
Amb residence

List of Old Comrades of Indian
National Army, Members of Hikarikikan
1943-1945, who lives in and around Tokyo.

Shigemoto Okuda	21-15, 2-Chome, Nishi-Azabu, Minatoku, Tokyo 100	Phone: 3-3407-1748 Fax: 3-3486-8327
Office:	Room 101, Sanshin-Bldg., Yurakucho, Chiyodaku, Yokyo 100	Phone: 3-3591-9081 Fax: 3-3591-9084
Chikaro Fujii	1-9-12, Tsuga, Wakabaku, Chiba, 265	Phone: 0432-32-3100
<i>Will come alone</i> Masao Hayashi	3000, Noborito, Tamaku, Kawasaki, 501-06	Phone: 044-900-0103
Tadao Iwahara	5-C, Nakamine-Mansion, 5-1-27, Akasaka, Minatoku Tokyo, 107	
<i>will come alone</i> Shigeru Aoyagi	1-6-13, Nakamachi, Meguroku, Tokyo, 153	Phone: 3-3712-7955
<i>No -</i> Gaku Kuwahara	2-29-12, Shirayuri, Izumi-ku, Yokohama-shi 245	Phone: 045-811-2567
Katsumi Murata	1101, 3-11-6, Takashimadaira Itabashiku, Tokyo, 195	Phone: 3-935-1172
Gintaro Miyake	3-18, Daimancho, Meitoku, Nagoya, 465	Phone: 052-703-0248
Tatsuo Izumi	2886-13, Yayoicho, Tokorozawa 359	Phone: 0429-24-2179
Yoshikichi Ishikawa	Room-1101, Central-Hight, Azabu-Jyuban, Minatoku Tokyo, 105	Phone: 3-3454-3890

Most sincerely yours,


Shigemoto Okuda

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177

Pl. keep with 'Netaji'
related pgs.

Separate file? (K) 22/9.

Aug)

THE STATESMAN DELHI, THURSDAY, 23 JANUARY 1997



The President, Dr S D Sharma, releasing a book, 'Essential Writings of Netaji', edited by Dr Sisir Kumar Bose, Netaji's nephew (right), at a function at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Wednesday. — PTI.

インド大統領宮殿 1997年 1月22日 シャルマ大統領と

奥田重元 (大統領の右)

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To honour the Freedom Fighters

The President

and

Shrimati Vinata Sharma

request the pleasure of the company of

Mr. Shigemoto Okuda

at a Reception

on Thursday, 23 January, 1997 at 1600 hrs.

at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Dress : National/Formal



The Statue of

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

will be unveiled by

Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma

President of India

at Parliament House, New Delhi

on Thursday, the 23rd January, 1997 at 9.30 A.M.

You are cordially invited to attend the function.

(Kindly be in your seat in the Central Hall by 9.15 A.M.)

From :
Parliament of India

R.S.V.P.

W.G. Branch

Phones : 3034404, 3034406 & 3034408

Fax : 3034410 & 3010758

NOT TRANSFERABLE

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No hand bags, brief-cases etc.
are allowed.]



NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस जन्म शताब्दी समारोह

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE

request your presence at the inauguration

of

BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

of

NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE,

by

DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA
PRESIDENT OF INDIA

On Thursday, 23rd January 1997

at 11 a.m.

at Diwān-e-Aam, Red Fort, New Delhi.

Please see instructions overleaf.

RSVP : 3383185, 3384867, 3389608

113

(A)

His Excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen,

奥田重元 スピ-チ

It is really great honour and pleasure for me to be able to attend the International Conference for "Asian Relations in 21st Century" at Netaji Bhawan in Calcutta on behalf of the comrades of Hikari-Kikan military coordinators who were assigned to act between INA forces and Japanese army at the front of battlefield.

Taking this valuable opportunity, I would like to emphasize to the attendants of the meetings how INA soldiers fought bravely during the joint operation with Japanese army against British forces for the independence of the country under the orders given by Supreme Commander of INA, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I was serving as a military coordinator attached to Special Tactical & Intelligence Unit of INA assigned by Hikari-Kikan, as if I was spiritually the same as the proper INA soldier living together on duty for 24 hours then always ready to go into action at any moment sacrificing our own life for the battle of Independence of India with great honour.

The above-mentioned INA unit which I belonged was dispatched from Singapore well in advance the arrival of the main INA forces by divisional scale to the borderland between Burma and India in order to enable them to participate in the joint operation with spear-head battalions of Japanese army, 60th Infantry Regiment of 15th Division, who dashed toward Imphal through steep mountain paths across the range, but joint operation forces of Japanese army and INA taking along only light arms to break through deep in the mountains and valleys around the border on foot defeated after consuming all supply of ammunition and provisions before reached their destination because of powerful counter offensive made by British forces at their heavily armored Assam defence positions.

I think that around 50 thousands of Japanese soldiers who were killed in action of the war with INA's soldiers should have strongly felt nostalgia in the battlefields far away from their mother country although they well understood their important duty, the joint operation with INA.

Today, Japanese TV and newspapers are often reporting explanatory articles concerning the situation of outstanding economic development and future possibility of the great country, India, our powerful colleague in Asia blessed with 900 millions of efficient human resources and the extensive land. Whenever we hear these news, we share our pleasure as if these are the matters happened in Japan.

(114)

We strongly wish from the bottom of our heart that the people of your nation and Japanese people are strongly tied through Netaji and INA which Netaji commanded, pass down also the historical truth in which we cooperated each other with our maximum endeavour for the achievement of the same target from generation to generation, and establish better understanding and closer cooperative relation between the two nations and both nations' people for a long time forth to come. We also wish tremendous development of the nation of India, the best of health and the nicest fortune of you all.

Shigemoto Okuda
On behalf of old
comrades of INA
in Japan

(115)

(B)

His Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

奥田重元
南会式 挨拶

It is the greatest honour and pleasure for me to be invited and to be able to attend the Centenary Conference of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the great man borne in Asia and the hero of independence of India whom we respect the most as one of the members of Hikari-Kikan who was assigned as Military Coordinator of Indian National Army (INA) which made a joint operation with Japanese army under the Supreme Commander Netaji.

For us Japanese, India is the closest country in terms of our daily life. For example, Budism has taken roots as nation's base of thought for a long time, Budism-related traditional arts and handicrafts bloomed all over the country, and Indian curry and rice always ranks high as a favorite dish in Japanese eating habits.

Recently, Japanese TV and newspapers are often reporting explanatory articles concerning the situation of outstanding economic development and future potentiality of the great country, India, our powerful colleague in Asia blessed with 900 millions of efficient human resources and the extensive land. Whenever we hear these news, we share our pleasure as if these are the matters happened in Japan.

We strongly wish from the bottom of our heart that the people of your nation and Japanese people are strongly tied through Netaji and INA which Netaji commanded, pass down the historical truth also in which we cooperated each other with our best efforts for the achievement of the same target from generation to generation, and establish better understanding and closer cooperative relation between the two nations and both nations' people not only in economy and culture but also in various fields for a long time forth to come. We also wish tremendous development of the nation of India, the best of health and the nicest fortune of you all.

Shigemoto Okuda
On behalf of old
comrades of INA
in Japan

116

171

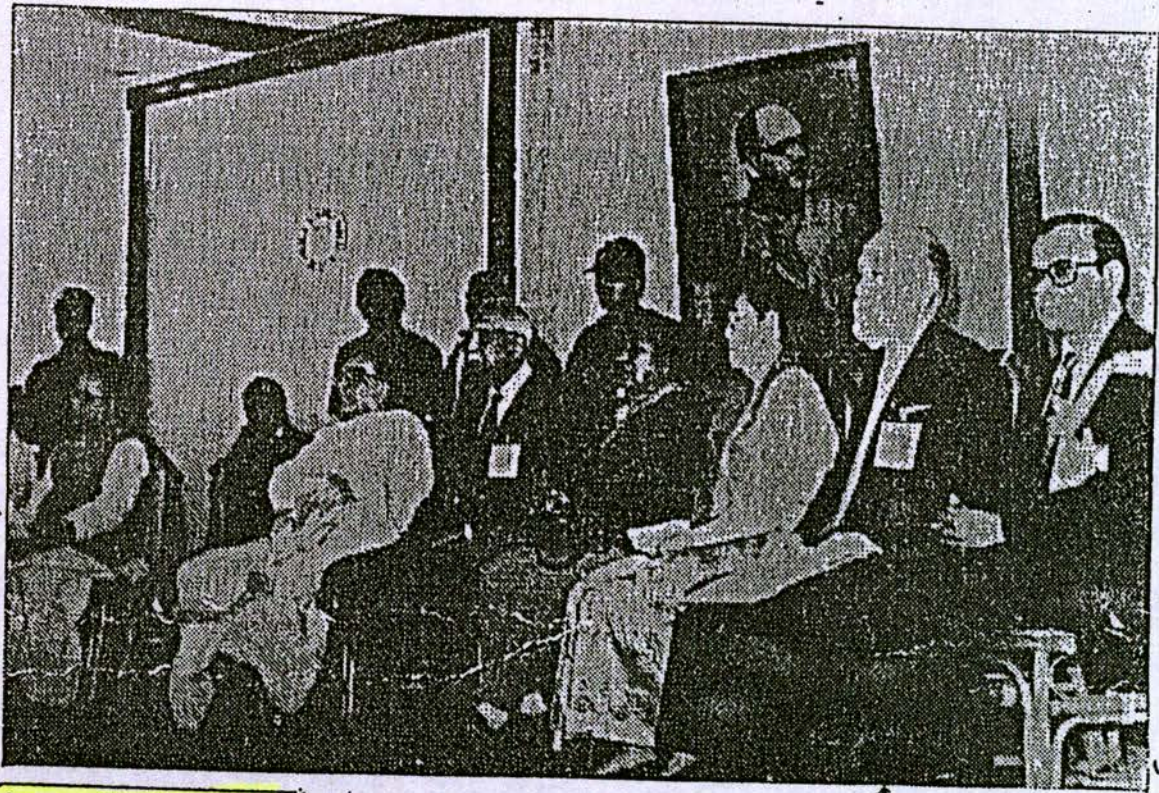


THE ORACLE

VOL. XVIII

APRIL 1996

NO. 2



External Minister
of India
Mr Mukerjee

Netaji Centenary Inaugural Convention
Netaji Bhawan, Calcutta, 23 January 1996
International Delegation seated on the dais

Representative
of Japan
Mr S. Okuda

A NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU PUBLICATION

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**Proceedings of the plenary session of Netaji
Centenary Inaugural Convention, Netaji Bhawan,
Calcutta, 23 January 1996**

Welcome address

**Dr. Sugata Bose
(India)**

Dr. Sugata Bose who conducted the proceedings welcomed guests from different countries of Southeast Asia, Japan, Germany and from other parts of India. He particularly mentioned the former INA cadets who had been sent to the Imperial Military Academy in Japan by Netaji for military training and were now settled in Malaysia, Singapore and South India. Dr. Bose added :

"It is a very great pleasure to have with us Mr. S. Okuda who was the youngest member of Hikari Kikan, the Japanese liaison organisation with the Indian National Army. He fought shoulder to shoulder with our soldiers of freedom on the Northeastern frontier of India in 1944-45. It is a very great privilege to welcome in our midst Mrs. Tinsa Maw Naing and her daughter, the daughter and grand-daughter of Dr. Ba Maw. Dr. Ba Maw was the President of Burma during the Second World War. We have had the great pleasure of listening to Dr. Ba Maw's son Mr. Zali Maw giving his reminiscences of Netaji and Dr. Ba Maw at a session of this convention. We also extend our welcome to the delegates who have arrived from various other foreign countries. It is only appropriate that we have no less a person than the Union Minister of External Affairs Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee who is a good friend of the Bureau to come and greet them and be with us all here. I will not say any formal words of welcome to the INA Officers who are also members of the Netaji Research Bureau including Col. Lakshmi Sahgal, Col. Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon and Capt. Yadava who are all here amidst us today. I will only say a few words about the Netaji Research Bureau. Although anniversaries are always very happy occasions for us we do not make too much of anniversaries. Because our work is continuous and constructive. I am happy to report to you that Netaji Research Bureau has

Address

Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee
Minister of External Affairs
Government of India*

Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, Chairman, International Netaji Centenary Committee, distinguished delegates from Southeast Asian Countries and friends.

I welcome the old associates of Netaji and their relatives who have come from different parts of Southeast Asia and this sub-continent to offer their respects to Netaji at the beginning of the Centenary Celebration. I wish all of them a good stay here. We are indebted to them that despite their many personal problems and advanced age they have thought it to be their duty to come and pay homage to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We salute them.

Today at the inaugural ceremony of Netaji's Birth Centenary Celebration, we would like to offer our sincerest thanks and gratitude particularly to Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, not only because he is the Director of Netaji Research Bureau, not only because he was Netaji's fellow-traveller during his Great Escape, not simply because he belongs to a family whose great sacrifices and sufferings for the liberation of the country are an integral part of the history of our freedom struggle and that he himself actively participated in the freedom struggle. We thank him particularly because he is the founder of Netaji Research Bureau, the institution through which he has been carrying on single-handedly studies and research on Netaji. What is more, he has been showing to the new generation the way to the solution of problems of our society in the current perspective by bringing out the relevance of Netaji's life, his ideals, his thoughts, dreams and aspirations. He is not merely recording information and doling out theories. This is the importance of his work.

I sincerely feel, therefore, and I can say this particularly because I am a Bengali — it is not possible for other language or ethnic groups to feel the same way — we are very often carried away by emotion only and tend to

*Mr. Mukherjee's address, except for the first paragraph, has been translated from the original Bengali, Ed.

Address

Shigemoto Okuda
(Japan)

Ladies and gentlemen, Chairman of International Netaji Centenary Committee, Dr. Sisir Bose, and members of Netaji Research Bureau! I would like to express my sincere thanks for inviting me to Centenary Inaugural Convention at Netaji Bhawan of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the national hero of India, and the world's great man whom I respect the most. As I was one of the military coordinators of Hikari Organ dispatched from Japanese Army to our allied force of Indian National Army (INA) fighting under the command of Supreme Commander Netaji aiming to obtain the independence of India, it is the greatest honor and pleasure for me to be able to attend this magnificent and important conference today on behalf of our old comrades of Japan who shared their lots with INA's comrades in the severe battle fields.

Now, please let me convey the message from our old comrades, best wellwishers of India in Japan that they wish the great success of this conference and the best of health of dear friends gathering here today since I was asked by them before I left Japan.

I also would like to inform you that we sincerely wish every day that the holy ash and remains of Netaji return to his mother country India while as many of us, old comrades of the battle fields are still alive as long as the rest of our lives continue although the average age of our fellow soldiers is going to exceed 80 years old. They have been guarding the holy ash and remains of Netaji lying at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo with their greatest respect, and holding memorial services for the anniversary of Netaji's death every year since 1945.

Although it is my personal matter, one of my dearest elder brothers who was conscripted as a soldier of Japanese Army is still buried in the trench in Kanglatongbi, the suburb of Imphal, and has not yet returned to Japan. The last words he left me when I accidentally met him after the interval of a few years in the jungle around the border between India and Burma were "I believe we will be discharged from the military service and be able to go back to Japan when this operation to support India's Indepen-

THE ORACLE

dence terminates. Let's return to peaceful Japan in good health."

I think that around 50 thousands of Japanese soldiers who were killed in action of the war with INA's soldiers should have strongly felt nostalgia in the battle fields far away from their mother country although they well understood their important duty, the joint operation with INA, and were anxious about the future of their wives and children till their last moment. Upon visiting the land of India this time, my heart is truly filled with deep emotion thinking over themselves and their families. I would like to visit the land of Imphal some day in near future to mourn for the dead soldiers of the Great Britain's Armies also who sacrificed themselves for the respective national policies as well as the soldiers of the Allied Army consisted by INA and Japanese Army, and pray for the eternal peace and happiness of the people all over the world.

Recently, Japanese televisions and newspapers are often broadcasting programs and publishing explanatory articles regarding the situation of remarkable economic development and future potentiality of the great nation, India, our powerful friend in Asia blessed with 900 millions of excellent human resources and the vast land. Whenever we get in touch with these news, we share our pleasure as if these are the facts happened in our country.

We strongly wish from the bottom of our heart that the people of your country and Japanese people are firmly tied through Netaji and INA which Netaji commanded, pass down the historical truth in which we cooperated each other with our utmost efforts for the achievement of the same target from generation to generation, and establish better understanding and closer tie-up relation between the two nations and both nations' people for a long, long time forth to come. We also wish tremendous prosperity of the nation of India, the best of health and happiness of you all.

Finally, I would like to close my greeting introducing the song of INA which I sang with INA's soldiers in the jungle around the border flying the national flag of India every morning 50 years before although my memory becomes uncertain.

(Mr. Okuda concluded by Singing the INA Song. Ed.)

A discussion on Netaji in the proper perspective

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

CALCUTTA, Jan. 21. — "If Netaji had been alive, he would have returned to fight for his country's independence, not lived like a fugitive in another country".

This was said by Mr M. Gandhinathan, a former soldier in Subhash Chandra Bose's Indian National Army, at a discussion on "Netaji, India and World War II", organized by Netaji Research Bureau as part of his centenary celebrations.

The discussion was unique. Mr Mohammed Siraj of Pakistan, Mr S. Okuda of Japan, Mr Zali Maw of Japan and Mr Gandhinathan of Malaysia, who had associated with Netaji during his struggle for India's independence, recounted their experiences.

Historians Rajat Ray, Hari Vasudevan and Rudrangshu Mukherjee, on the other hand, sought to put their views in proper perspective.

The effort was not merely to revive the past, but work towards a better future and debunk myths surrounding Netaji, said Mr Sisir Bose, the leader's nephew. This was necessary as Netaji strove for a better future not only for India, but for South-East Asia too, he said.

Mr S. Okuda, was the youngest member of the Hikari Kikan

when Netaji visited Japan. Now an old man, Mr Okuda hoped that the freedom fighter's ashes would be returned to India as soon as possible while he was still alive.

He said every year, the INA's anthem was sung along the India-Myanmar border in memory of the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the army's ideals.

He wished India success in its drive towards economic progress and hoped Indo-Japanese relations remained cordial always.

Mr Mohammed Siraj, son of Abad Khan who hosted Netaji's stay in Pakistan during his "great escape" from India, described the freedom fighter as a man quick to adapt to the customs of the places he visited.

"He ate beef, learnt the namaaz and lived like the Muslims before leaving for Kabul en route to Russia", he said.

Dr Zali Maw of Myanmar reminisced on the days when his father, Ba Maw, and Netaji worked together to chalk out the freedom of their respective countries.

His father gave "unstinted support" to Subhash Chandra Bose in establishing the Indian National Army. "The independence that Netaji and Ba Maw visualized was the independence that finally came to Myan-

mar and India", Mr Maw said.

Even though the strategies adopted by Netaji and the Myanmar freedom fighters differed, they were united in their resolve for freedom, he said.

Mr M. Gandhinathan, who had served in the INA, recounted the incidents leading to Netaji's death to emphasize that Subhash Bose lost his life soon after his plane crashed at Taihoku, Taiwan, on August 18, 1945.

"Netaji maybe alive in spirit, but it is important to be realistic and accept his death", he said. "Only then can we bring back his ashes in full colours and allow his soul to rest in peace".

Analysing these accounts against the backdrop of the crisis surrounding Netaji's ashes, Mr Rudrangshu Mukherjee said it was vital to contemplate on the freedom fighter's vision for the future and ask oneself if he would appreciate being treated as a deity. It was important not to lose our critical spirit in analysing Netaji, the freedom fighter and social activist, he said.

Prof. Vasudevan said there were several gaps in our knowledge of the events in Netaji's life. Hence, information on this period had to be gathered through systematic research to avoid misinterpretation.

(64)
165
122
EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

Reference para(2) of HRD Minister's letter placed below. I have discussed with Ambassador. We can examine possibility of holding a function for the INA comrades of Netaji. C(P&I) may please look at papers in the political wing and let me know whether any such function for them has been held in the past.

S Jaishankar
(S. Jaishankar)
DCM

September 2, 1997

C(P&I)

A function was held in Oct '93 (Details of
Flag 'A' & 'B' please).

Sc 22

Box dt 8-2-95

hl
21/9/97

DCM

Papers are placed below as desired.

S Jaishankar

4.9.97

Ambr

Where is the telex of 14/10/93 (No A-556)? Get copy from m (c) & put up.

Shuril

4.9.97

C (P&I)

Submitted please.

hl
4/9/97

Ambassador

Is it possible to contact INA comrades of
Netaji and host a Reception for them on 21/10.
How many are left?

Shuril
7.10

DCM

INCOMING TELEX

164

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16/10

MCC)

Discussed
for for text
organised
B.G.
15/10

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A-553:: INDEMBASSY JAKARTA

A-554:: INDEMBASSY BANGKOK

A-555:: HICOMIND SINGAPORE

A-556:: HICOMIND KUALA LUMPUR

HOM FROM JS(COORD).

GOVT. HAVE DECIDED THAT YOUR MISSION SHOULD CELEBRATE

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF AZAD HIND DAY ON 21ST OCT. 1993 (I.E.

THE DAY ON FORMATION OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVT OF FREE INDIA BY

NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AT SINGAPORE IN 1943). YOU ARE REQUESTED

TO ORGANISE SUITABLE FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES ON THIS DAY OUT OF YOUR
OWN RESOURCES. THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE SUGGESTED:

(I) HEAD OF MISSION TO ADDRESS THE RESIDENT INDIANS/PERSONS OF
INDIAN ORIGIN HIGHLIGHTING THE CONTRIBUTION OF NETAJI TOWARDS
INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE.

(II) TO ORGANISE AN ESSAY COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL/COLLEGE
STUDENTS ON TOPICS SUCH AS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SETTING UP OF
THE FIRST GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA IN SINGAPORE IN OCTOBER 1943
AND NETAJI'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE.

FOREIGN
= ~~15/10~~, NEW DELHI.

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1/9/93

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(62)

(124)

1/2

F A X

From: Foreign, New Delhi

To : Indembassy, Tokyo

Counsellor (P&I) from DS(JK)

I am faxing herewith news item entitled "INA men want to bring Netaji ashes from Japan" which has appeared in 'The Asian Age' of today, the 27th August, 1997.

Regards,

N. Chauhan
(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)
Deputy Secretary (JK)
27..8.97

Shuril
29.8

DCM 1-1/2

Keep on file. 1/17 c (JK)

Am

INA men want to bring Netaji ashes from Japan

By REZAUL H. LASKAR

New Delhi, Aug. 26: The all-India INA committee has asked the Centre to allow it to bring back Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes from Japan so that they can be immersed with full honours.

Speaking at a function held at South Block here on Tuesday to mark the declassification of INA documents by the defence ministry, the general secretary of the committee, Captain S.S. Yadav, wondered why the Centre and the people of India were not making any efforts to bring back Netaji's remains from the Renkoji temple in Japan.

"If the government does not want to do it, it should give the INA committee a no-objection certificate to bring back the ashes," he said.

Capt. Yadav called on the defence ministry

to present scrolls of honour to INA martyrs and certificates to those who had received gallantry awards in acknowledgement of the sacrifices made by the INA soldiers. "We do not want any cash awards, but there should be some recognition of the INA's contributions to the freedom movement in India," he said.

"For the last 52 years, the defence ministry was out of bounds for us. Through this function, marking the declassification of INA records, the ministry has repaid its debt to Netaji and INA," Captain Yadav said. He, however, felt the declassified documents would not contain any sensational disclosures about the Azad Hind Fauj.

"These documents were mostly prepared by the British, but we are thankful to the United Front government for taking the bold step of making them public," he said.

Earlier, defence minister Mulayam Singh Yadav handed over 990 files on the INA and 97 files on the Royal Indian Navy mutiny to human resources development minister S.R. Bommai.

Although most of the INA records were destroyed, some were preserved by the history division of the defence ministry. The files contain information on INA operations, intelligence reports, INA Act and organisation, interrogation reports and court martial proceedings.

They will now be given to the National Archives. Mr. Yadav said the declassification had been arranged as a mark of respect to Netaji on the occasion of his birth centenary.

"There is need to preserve this account of unparalleled sacrifices by the brave soldiers of the INA so that future generations can

draw inspiration from them," he said. defence minister said steps would be taken to publish compilations of the declassified documents.

Mr. Bommai said his ministry was planning a film on the life of Netaji and had provided Rs 3 crore for the establishment of the Netaji Foundation.

There are also plans to erect memorials on the Andaman and Nicobar islands and Manipur, where the INA had raised the Indian flag. He added that the defence and other ministries would consider the demand raised by the INA committee.

The defence ministry has already handed over rank badges of INA personnel and a diary of General Shah Nawaz Khan to the human resources development ministry for display at the Freedom Fighters Museum at the Red Fort.



Dr.S. Jaishankar
Deputy Chief of Mission

भारत का राजदूतवास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
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Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866
E-Mail: indembjp@gol.com

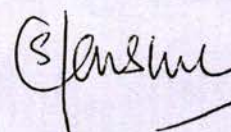
No. Tok/102/2192

August 25, 1997

Dear Shri Rangachari,

I am enclosing herewith a report by our Minister (C) on a function which he attended at the Renkoji temple on Netaji's death anniversary on 18th August, 1997. As indicated in a separate message, Ambassador had visited the Renkoji temple earlier that morning to pay his homage.

Yours sincerely,


% (S. Jaishankar)

Shri T.C.A. Rangachari,
Joint Secretary (EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

C/102/2192
ACP
27/8

(127)

Embassy of India
Tokyo
Consular Section

I attended the 52nd memorial service of Subhas Chandra Bose at Renko-ji Temple on August 18, 1997. Mr Shigemoto Okuda, one of the co-ordinators of the function and the youngest of the Japanese freedom fighters, came to fetch me from the Embassy.

2. The ceremony began with recitations from the holy Buddhist scriptures by the Chief Priest Rev. Mochizuki. As part of the service, participants individually filed before Netaji's photograph and later before the urn containing his ashes. Mr. Okuda said that he expected around 20 surviving freedom fighters to come for the ceremony and was quite surprised that finally more than 150 turned up to pay their respect to Netaji. Of these, about 100 were young Japanese boys and girls. Others were Japanese freedom fighters, children of those who had died for Netaji's cause and those who have an abounding interest in keeping Netaji's memory alive in the interest of a more intense relationship between India and Japan. There were at least seven who were over 80 years of age and had very fond memories of Netaji. It was stirring to see them smartly standing and bowing before Netaji's photograph and then marching erect towards the place where the container of Netaji's ashes was kept.

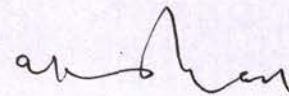
3. After the ceremony which lasted for about an hour, I was called to speak. I recalled Netaji's sacrifices for the ideals of liberation from colonial forces and his contribution to India's freedom. I paid tributes to the sacrifices made by Japanese soldiers and officers for our freedom and expressed our profound gratefulness to those who were keeping the memory and message of Netaji alive in Japan. The participants appreciated when I told them that the Ambassador and the DCM had come in the morning to offer prayers and could have also attended the ceremony but for prior commitments.

4. Winding up the function, Mr. M. Hayashi, Secretary of the Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, hoped that during his life time Govt of India would make suitable arrangements to take the ashes to its rightful place in India, at least now that all controversies about Netaji's death in crash had been settled. He wanted me to indicate whether the Govt of India was going to accept the ashes during the 50th Year of Independence. I mentioned

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-2-

that Netaji belonged to both India and Japan. This was exemplified by the manner in which Indians and Japanese have fought for his ideals. I was sure that at both places Netaji would always be loved, admired and remembered in whatever form we might choose to cherish his memory. Mr. Hayashi later read out a letter received from Joy Chandra from Imphal about the efforts that he was making to persuade the Govt of India to bring the ashes from Renko-ji Temple to India.



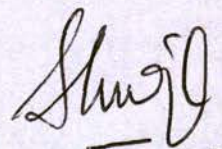
(Amar Bhushan)
Minister (Consular)
20.8.97

Ambassador

Minister (Consular)

Thanks. The return of Netaji's ashes to India has been taken up by the govt of Japan with GOI. DCM can send a report on this to MHA, who are seized of the matter.

DCM


20.8.97

60

129

158

Facsimile Message No. 223
Date: August 18, 1997

~ ~ ~ ~ ~	~ ~ ~ ~ ~
TO	FROM
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Shri T.C.A. Rangachari	S. Jaishankar
Joint Secretary(EA)	Minister & DCM
MEA	Embassy of India
<u>New Delhi</u>	<u>Tokyo</u>
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Fax No: 301-2760	Fax No: 3262-1273
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Total number of pages including cover page: 1	

Repeat: JS(XP), MEA

On the occasion of Netaji's 52nd death anniversary, Ambassador today visited Renkoji temple and paid his homage to the departed leader. The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy also held a commemorative function this afternoon at which Embassy was appropriately represented.

S. Jaishankar
(S. Jaishankar)

C(P/E)
A(P) 11/8
faced.

(59)

(130)

INCOMING TELEX 157

A-213 TO A-227 SAME TXT NEW DELHI 200 071800

ETAT PTY

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FROM:- FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO:-

A-213 INDEMBASSY TOKYO

A-214- INDEMBASSY BANGKOK

A-215- INDEMBASSY BEIJING

A-216- INDEMBASSY JAKARTA

A-217- HICOMIND CANBERRA

A-218- COMIND HONG KONG

A-219- HICOMIND KUALALUMPUR

A-220- INDEMBASSY MANILA

A-221- INDEMBASSY SEOUL

A-222- HICOMIND SINGAPORE

A-223- HICOMIND WELLINGTON

A-224- CONGENDIA SYDNEY

A-225- INDEMBASSY VIENTIANE

A-226- INDEMBASSY PYONGYANG

A-227- CONGENDIA OSAKA(KOBE)

I trust we have not yet
taken any action on the letters of
M/HAD
Shuyl
8.8

DCM

Amb has asked Fe (Cw) for
his comments. This is placed
below. No other action appears
to have been taken.

1-8/8

HOM/HOPS FROM JS (COORD)

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT,
SHRI S.R. BOMMAI VIDE HIS LETTER NO. 8-8/97-INDIA 50
DATED JULY 17, 1997, TO ALL HOMs, HAS INTER-ALIA DIRECTED
YOU TO "EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE HEAD OF STATE TO
VISIT INDIA DURING THE COMMEMORATIVE YEAR I.E. UP TO AUGUST
15, 1998" AND FOR MAKING AN APPEAL TO ALL PEOPLE OF
INDIAN ORIGIN TO "DISPLAY THE NATIONAL FLAG ON 14-15
AUGUST, 1997".

Ambs.
The note gives interim
info. Some points could
be followed up e.g.
(C), (D), G, & I.

Shuyl
11-8-97

DCM

(131) 156

WE HAVE CONSULTED SECRETARY (CULTURE) WHO IS COORDINATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HE HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE DIRECTIVE REGARDING ISSUE OF INVITATION TO THE HEAD OF STATE, HAS BEEN INADVERTENTLY MENTIONED. THEY WOULD ENCOURAGE EVERY HOM TO MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO INVITE THE HEAD OF STATE/GOVERNMENT TO ATTEND THE INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION BEING ORGANISED BY THEM ON 15 AUGUST, 1997, IN VIEW OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE. THEREFORE, KINDLY DO NOT REPEAT DO NOT TAKE ANY STEP AS REGARDS EXTENDING INVITATION TO THE HEAD OF STATE TO VISIT INDIA WHICH CAN ONLY BE DONE ON RECEIVING DIRECTIVE FROM THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA.

SIMILARLY, WE DO REALISE SENSITIVITY INVOLVED IN FLYING INDIAN NATIONAL FLAG BY THE PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN ON 14-15 AUGUST, 1997. YOU MAY KINDLY EXERCISE YOUR DISCRETION IN THIS REGARD.

REGARDS.

(C.M. BHANDARI)

JOINT SECRETARY (COORDINATION)

AUGUST 7, 1997.

FOREIGN NEW DELHI

COLLS:- A-213 TOA-227(S.T)/MEA/CRASH/TOKYOZ. CENTRE/LM/071840

PLACK

EMBASSY OF INDIA TOKYO

Reference letter dated 17th July, 1997 from the Minister of Human Resource Development regarding functions to be organized in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence.

2. My comments are as follows:

- (A) I do not know ~~that~~ any living person in Japan, who was directly involved in India's freedom struggle. However, certain people, who have been living in Japan since pre-independence days, could be included in the special reception, which could be hosted at the Embassy or at Embassy Residence. There are some people whose parents were involved in India's freedom struggle ~~while~~ they were staying in Japan during pre-independence period. Names of such people could be obtained by us from Mr. A.P.S. Mani or Mr. Chandru Advani. Some of the names which I know could be the following:
1. Children of Mr. A.M. Nair (owner of Nair Restaurant)
 2. Mrs. Afifa Rehman, her mother and sister
- (B) Since there was enormous destruction in Japan in 1940s it may not perhaps be possible to obtain books, journals, periodicals, etc. of that period. We could, however, get in touch with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Committee, some of whose members have photographs of that period with them and accordingly a photo exhibition could be organized. We have already obtained a video copy of a Japanese film, the story of which is connected with India's Independence struggle, DCM is working out some programme for video presentation of that film.
- (C) Former Minister (Consular) was advised by Ambassador to get in touch with Indian Community Activities Tokyo (ICAT) to organize some commemorative functions. I believed that he has sounded Mr. A.P.S. Mani and some event is being worked out.
- (D) Conference/seminar is being organized as part of the official programmes by the Embassy.
- (E) I do not think we have sent invitation to the Prime Minister but perhaps the matter could be followed up after sending the invitation. Visit of Head of State to India was perhaps sounded to Foreign Minister Ikeda during his visit to India.
- (F) Publicity of the programmes being organized/assisted by us through print and electronic media would be very expensive. However, announcements at no costs could be inserted in English as well as Japanese newspapers and periodicals. Besides, Tokyo FM 76.1 channel is always willing to make announcements of such events free of charge.
- (G) With a view to give wide publicity to the official logo we can get small stickers from India which could be pasted on all our correspondence, on the passports (Indian as well foreign), officials as well as cars owned by our officials, etc.

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- (H) Although time is too short to get flags from India, we have some quantity with us which could be lent by us to prominent Indians on returnable basis. These flags could be displayed by them at their residence.
- (I) In addition to the stickers of logo we can perhaps also obtain posters from India and distributed freely to Non-Resident Indians. It would be very economical to get them from India by diplomatic bag.

May kindly see.



(R.K. Kalra)
First Secretary (Culture)
5.8.1997

DCM / Sensitive
5.8.97

Ambassador



S. R. BOMMAI

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F.No. 8-8/97-India 50

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री

भारत

नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

MINISTER OF
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 001

153

My dear Head of Mission,

July 17, 1997

As you are aware, Government of India has decided to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence in a befitting manner, utilising the Anniversary as a solemn occasion for introspection, assessment and evaluation of our achievements and for rekindling the spirit of the freedom movement. The commemorative programmes will commence from August 15, 1997 i.e. upon completion of 50 years of independence and will be spread across the entire year upto August 15, 1998. Celebrations in India are being planned in a manner that will ensure the fullest participation of people of all sections of Indian Society. The celebrations will take place at all levels such as towns, villages, tehsils and district headquarters as well as state capitals.

A | 2. I would like to request Heads of Missions to organise special commemorative programmes to honour freedom fighters or people who supported our freedom struggle who may be resident in the countries of their accreditation. For example in the UK, members of the erstwhile India League could be honoured. Missions could also organise exhibitions of books, journals and periodicals of the time which supported India's freedom movement.

C | 3. Special attention should be paid to commemorative programmes in countries with a sizeable population of people of Indian origin, such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA, UK, South Africa etc. Missions should contact important NRIs and cultural groups and associate them with commemorative events or encourage them to organise programmes of their own. In addition, seminars and conferences could be arranged to highlight the achievements of the nation in the 50 years of independence.

E | 4. Heads of Missions should make a special effort to invite Heads of Government to attend the Independence Day Reception being organised by them on August 15, 1997 in view of the 50th anniversary of our independence. They may also extend an invitation to the Heads of State to visit India during the commemorative year i.e. upto August 15, 1998.

Pl. comment on A to I

..Contd/-

FS (Cul)

Shuqil
4.8



S. R. BOMMAI

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मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री

भारत

नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

MINISTER OF
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 001

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F | 5. Heads of Missions should ensure the widest publicity for
G | these programmes in the print and electronic media. The official
H | logo for the commemoration which has been forwarded to you by the
T | Ministry of External Affairs should be used widely for all
ceremonial and cultural events. Even initiatives by private
individuals and groups could be permitted to use the logo where
Missions deem it appropriate. An appeal could be made to all
people of India origin to display the National Flag on 14-15
August, 1997. They should also be encouraged to display the logo
on posters, banners and stickers at their homes, on vehicles etc.

6. The 50th Anniversary of our Independence should be
celebrated by our Missions abroad in the most memorable manner. I
would like to request each one of you to extend your fullest co-
operation in making this commemoration a success.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.R. BOMMAI)

Shri Kuldip Sahdev,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo.

ZCZC PTID55
JPNTOKK JPNTOK JPNTOKP

PTI NEWS (23.1.96)

BOSE-DEATH

HABEEBUR REHMAN WAS WITNESS TO NETAJI'S DEATH; SAYS HISTORIAN
BOSE-DEATH

BHUBANESWAR, EASTERN INDIA, JAN 23 (PTI) THOUGH NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, THE FREEDOM FIGHTER WHO SETUP THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA), HAD BEEN KILLED IN AN AIR CRASH AT FORMOSA ON AUGUST 18, 1945, THE SILENCE MAINTAINED BY THE LEADER'S FAMILY HAD KEPT HIS WHEREABOUTS UNDER A SHROUD OF MYSTERY, ACCORDING TO EMINENT INDIAN HISTORIAN, PROFESSOR MANMATHNATH DAS.

NETAJI'S COMRADE HABEEBUR REHMAN WAS WITNESS TO HIS DEATH BUT HE KEPT THE SECRET TO HIMSELF WHILE THE THEN VICEROY OF INDIA, LORD WAVELL, THOUGHT THAT THE LEADER HAD GONE INTO HIDING AFTER SPREADING SUCH A RUMOUR.

WAVELL'S SUSPICION LEAKED OUT AND THE BOSE FAMILY'S SILENCE FURTHER ADDED GRIST TO THE GROWING CONFUSION WHICH DROVE MANY TO BELIEVE THAT SUBHAS WAS INDEED ALIVE.

PROFESSOR DAS WAS ADDRESSING A FUNCTION TO MARK THE COMMENCEMENT OF YEAR-LONG NETAJI CENTENARY CELEBRATION IN ORISSA ON TUESDAY.

PROFESSOR DAS, CONSIDERED AN AUTHORITY ON THE HISTORY OF CONGRESS, SAID ALL THE CONTROVERSY SHOULD END FOLLOWING THE RECENTLY REPORTED MEETING BETWEEN DR YOSHIMA-A JAPANESE DOCTOR WHO TREATED THE INJURED NETAJI AND WAS A WITNESS TO HIS DEATH--AND THE LEADER'S GRANDSON, ASHIS RAY. (MORE) PTI PKD BIS

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JPNTOKK JPNTOK JPNTOKP

BOSE-DEATH TWO LAST

BOSE-DEATH TWO LAST

(BHUBANESHWAR)

PROFESSOR DAS, CONSIDERED AN AUTHORITY ON THE HISTORY OF CONGRESS, SAID ALL THE CONTROVERSY SHOULD END FOLLOWING THE RECENTLY REPORTED MEETING BETWEEN DR YOSHIMA- A JAPANESE DOCTOR WHO TREATED THE INJURED NETAJI AND WAS A WITNESS TO HIS DEATH--AND THE LEADER'S GRANDSON, MR ASHIS RAY.

HE SAID THAT WHEN NETAJI WAS RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL WITH SEVERE DEATH--AND THE LEADER'S GRANDSON, MR ASHIS RAY.

HE SAID THAT WHEN NETAJI WAS RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL WITH SEVERAL OTHERS FOLLOWING THE PLANE CRASH, REHMAN WAS BY HIS SIDE HAVING ESCAPED DEATH. "TELL MY COUNTRYMEN, INDIA WILL BE FREE", NETAJI TOLD REHMAN WHO NEVER SPOKE ABOUT IT WHEN THE CONTROVERSY RAGED IN INDIA.

REHMAN, HOWEVER, ADMITTED LATER IN PAKISTAN THAT HE WAS WITNESS TO NETAJI'S DEATH; PROF DAS SAID.

THE MYSTERY ABOUT NETAJI'S WHEREABOUTS WAS FURTHER ACCENTUATED BY THE ASSERTIONS OF FORWARD BLOC LEADERS WHO CLAIMED THAT THEIR LEADER WAS ALIVE.

REFERRING TO BOSE'S DIFFERENCES WITH GANDHI, FORMER VICE- CHANCELLOR OF UTKAL UNIVERSITY, PROFESSOR DAS, SAID THERE WERE THREE REASONS WHICH CAUSED THE DISTANCING OF IDEAS.

FIRST, NETAJI WAS ABLE TO FORESEE THE IMMINENT THREAT OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR IN 1939 AND ARGUED THAT WHEN IT WAS CERTAIN THAT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BRITISH SOLDIERS WOULD PERISH AT THE HANDS OF HITLER'S GERMANY, INDIA COULD NOT BENEFIT BY PROTECTING THEM UNDER GANDHIJI'S PROFESSED NON-VIOLENCE.

BOSE WAS ALSO PARTICULARLY PEEVED THAT WHEN MILLIONS OF COUNTRYMEN WERE READY TO JOIN ANY KIND OF BATTLE AGAINST FOREIGN RULERS UNDER THE MAHATMA'S LEADERSHIP, GANDHIJI DID NOT WANT AN ARMED REBELLION AGAINST THE BRITISH. PTI PKD BIS

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PTI NEWS (23.1.196)

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ZCZC PTI146
JPNTOKK JPNTOKK JPNTOKP

PRANAB
NARROW ESCAPE FOR PRANAB MUKHERJEE
PRANAB

CALCUTTA, JAN 23 (PTI) INDIA'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER PRANAB MUKHERJEE HAD A NARROW ESCAPE WHEN SOME PEOPLE ARMED WITH STICKS TRIED TO ATTACK HIM DURING A FUNCTION TO MARK BIRTH CENTENARY OF FREEDOM FIGHTER SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE IN THIS METROPOLIS ON TUESDAY.

THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE WHEN MUKHERJEE DURING HIS SPEECH SAID, '+NETAJI (OR LEADER AS BOSE CALLED) TILL HIS DEATH FOUGHT FOR HIS GOALS+ WHICH EVOKED A HOSTILE REACTION FROM A SECTION OF THE CROWD, CLAIMED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE AZAD HIND PARISHAD, A NON POLITICAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

SOME OF THE PEOPLE, ARMED WITH BAMBOO STICKS, CLIMBED ON THE DAIS AND TRIED TO ATTACK MUKHERJEE LEADING TO CHAOS AND PANDEMONIUM AT THE FUNCTION.

THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MINISTER'S SECURITY GUARDS, HOWEVER, PUSHED AWAY THE ATTACKERS AND ESCORTED THE MINISTER TO HIS CAR.

THE SLOGAN SHOUTING DEMONSTRATORS, WHO DISRUPTED THE PROCEEDINGS, WERE DEMANDING THAT MUKHERJEE SHOULD WITHDRAW HIS WORDS, '+NETAJI TILL HIS DEATH+', AND SHOUTED '+NETAJI IS STILL ALIVE+.

MUKHERJEE LATER TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE INCIDENT WAS '+PRE-PLANNED+.

BOSE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE DIED IN AN AIRCRASH IN 1945, BUT HIS SUPPORTERS INSIST HE COULD STILL BE ALIVE.

PTI AKB DK SH

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PTI TRANSMISSION
(February 21, 1996)

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JPNTOKK JPNTOKK JPNTOKP

*NETAJI

FORMER INA CHIEF NETAJI WAS NOT IN USSR IN 1945, SAYS RUSSIA
NETAJI

NEW DELHI, FEB 21 (PTI): RUSSIA WEDNESDAY REITERATED THAT FORMER INDIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE HAD NEITHER ENTERED NOR STAYED ANYWHERE IN THE ERSTWHILE SOVIET UNION IN 1945 OR SUBSEQUENTLY, SETTING AT REST CLAIMS THAT BOSE DID NOT DIE IN A PLANE CRASH BUT ESCAPED TO THE THEN USSR.

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR TO INDIA, ANATOLY M. DRUKOV, TOLD NEWSMEN HERE, "AS A RESULT OF THE INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUT AT THE COLLECTIONS OF THE CENTRAL ARCHIVES OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE OF RUSSIA AND OF THE RUSSIAN CENTRE FOR RETENTION AND PERUSAL OF DOCUMENTS OF MODERN HISTORY, THERE WAS FOUND NO INFORMATION ON THE STAY OF SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE ON THE TERRITORY OF THE ERSTWHILE USSR IN 1945 AND IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS".

HE WAS ENDORSING THE RESEARCH FINDINGS OF NOTED JOURNALIST, ASHIS RAY, WHO MANAGED TO DIG OUT CERTAIN DOCUMENTS WHICH REVEALED THAT NEW DELHI HAD APPROACHED THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE ISSUE AND WAS GIVEN AN UNAMBIGUOUS REPLY.

SPECULATION HAS RAGED OVER THE YEARS REGARDING THE FATE OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA) CHIEF, WITH CLAIMS BEING FORWARDED THAT BOSE SUCCUMBED TO INJURIES SUSTAINED IN A PLANE CRASH AT TAIHOKU, TAIWAN, ON AUG 18, 1945. HIS ASHES HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN PRESERVED IN RENKOJI TEMPLE AT TOKYO.

ANOTHER SCHOOL OF THOUGHT IN SOME CIRCLES HAS BEEN THAT BOSE DID NOT DIE FOLLOWING THE PLANE CRASH BUT ESCAPED TO THE ERSTWHILE USSR IN 1945. MORE PTI JC SRE

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For our file.

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NETAJI 2 LAST

NETAJI 2 LAST

NEWDEL

AT THE NEWSMEET IN THE CAPITAL, JOURNALIST ASHIS RAY, DISTRIBUTING COPIES OF NOTES VERBAL BETWEEN INDIA AND RUSSIA, SAID THE STRAIGHT FORWARD RESPONSE FROM THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD PUT AN END TO SPECULATION ONCE AND FOR ALL ABOUT INA CHIEF BOSE'S VISIT TO FORMER SOVIET UNION IN OR AFTER 1945.

INDIA HAD APPROACHED THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON JULY 27, 1995, ASKING TO EXAMINE FOR A FINAL DETERMINATION ON WHETHER OR NOT NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE ENTERED OR STAYED ANYWHERE IN SOVIET UNION.

RUSSIA, IN REFERENCE TO THE REQUEST ON OCTOBER 27 1995, CATEGORICALLY STATED THAT NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER HAD COME TO LIGHT ON THE STAY OF THE INA CHIEF ON THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER USSR.

ASHIS RAY SAID THAT THE NOTES VERBAL REITERATED THE TRUTH EVEN MORE FORCEFULLY THAT NETAJI SUCCUMBED TO THE INJURIES SUFFERED BY HIM IN THE AUG 18, 1945, PLANE CRASH IN TAIWAN.

?? FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN FACT AND NOT FICTION, THERE IS NO MYSTERY SURROUNDING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO NETAJI. EVIDENCE HAS ALWAYS POINTED TOWARDS HIS END CONSEQUENT TO THE AIR TRAGEDY AND TO THE ASHES KEPT AT TOKYO'S RENKOJI TEMPLE'', RAY SAID.

HE SAID THAT BOSE'S REMAINS, HOWEVER WELL PRESERVED IN JAPAN, SHOULD BE BROUGHT BACK TO INDIA AS IT IS A NATIONAL OBLIGATION FOR INDIA'.

WHEN ASKED AS TO WHY IT TOOK SO LONG FOR RUSSIA TO DISCOUNT SUCH A SPECULATION, AMBASSADOR DRUKOV SAID, '' RUSSIA WAS NOT WHAT IT IS AT PRESENT. NOW WE HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE''.

??WE EXTEND GREAT RESPECT, UNDERSTANDING AND ATTENTION TO THOSE ACTIONS AIMED AT FINDING OUT TRUE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS (BOSE'S) DEMISE'', DRUKOV ADDED. PTI JC SRE

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JPNTOKK JPNTOK JPNTOKP

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PTI TRANSMISSION - JANUARY 31, 1996

BOSE

EX-JAPANESE DIPLOMAT GIVES DEADPAN ACCOUNT OF BOSE'S DEATH
BOSE (FROM SWADESH DEROY)

TOKYO, JAN 31, (PTI) A RETIRED JAPANESE DIPLOMAT HAS
TRIED TO PUT AT REST THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING SUBHAS
CHANDRA BOSE'S DEATH BY GIVING A DEADPAN ACCOUNT OF NETAJI'S
DEATH IN HIS BOOK +KALEDIOSCOPE OF INDIA+.

TOMOJI MUTO'S ACCOUNT ON THE INA LEADER'S DEBATED DEMISE
IS BASED ON EVIDENCES OF 40 WITNESSES GIVEN BEFORE AN ENQUIRY
COMMITTEE SENT HERE 40 YEARS AGO FROM NEW DELHI.

MUTO, 65, WHO SPENT NEARLY 19 YEARS IN INDIA BETWEEN
1957 AND 1993, LAST SERVING AS JAPAN'S CONSUL GENERAL IN
BOMBAY, SAYS THE THREE-MEMBER INDIAN ENQUIRY COMMITTEE HAD
+ACCEPTED THE ACCOUNT OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF SUBHAS BOSE'S DEATH
IN THE AUGUST 18, 1945 AIRCRASH AT TAIPEH, TAIWAN.+

PIECING TOGETHER WHAT THE WITNESSES SAID BEFORE THE
THREE MEMBER INDIAN COMMITTEE, WHICH HAD INA HERO SHAH NAWAZ
KHAN AND BOSE'S ELDER BROTHER SURESH CHANDRA AS ITS MEMBERS,
MUTO WRITES:

"JAPAN SURRENDERS ON AUGUST 15, 1945, TO THE ALLIED
FORCES. JAPANESE ENVOY TO THE SINGAPORE- BASED AZAD HIND
(INDEPENDENT INDIA) GOVERNMENT, TERUO HACHIYA MEETS BOSE IN
BANGKOK AND OFFERS POSSIBLE ASSISTANCES. BOSE THANKS JAPAN FOR
THE SUPPORT HE RECEIVED AND SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO FLY TO
MANCHURIA TO CONTINUE WITH HIS STRUGGLE FOR THE INDEPENDENCE
OF INDIA. BUT BEFORE GOING THERE HE WANTS TO GO TO TOKYO TO
PERSONALLY THANK THE JAPANESE LEADERS. MORE PTI CORR SP

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JPNTOKK JPNTOK JPNTOKP

BOSE TWO

BOSE TWO TOKYO

"JAPANESE GOVERNMENT - WHICH HAS BY THEN ALREADY
SURRENDERED TO THE ALLIES - ARRANGES A SPECIAL FLIGHT TO SEND
BOSE TO MANCHURIA VIA TOKYO ESCORTED BY LT. GENERAL SHIDEI.
THE PLANE PICKS UP BOSE AT SAIGON ON AUGUST 17 AND ARRIVES IN
TAIPEH THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

"IMMEDIATELY AFTER ITS LANDING AT TAIPEH IT TAKES OFF
AND CRASHES, ITS LEFT ENGINE FALLING OFF FOLLOWING
DISINTEGRATION OF ITS PROPELLER. GEN SHIDEI AND TWO OTHERS ARE
KILLED ON THE SPOT. BOSE WITH BURNS ALL OVER HIS BODY IS TAKEN
AN HOUR LATER TO THE TAIPEH ARMY HOSPITAL AND PASSES AWAY AT
SEVEN IN THE EVENING. HIS BODY IS CREMATED IN TAIPEH AND A
FUNERAL SERVICE IS HELD AT NISHI- HONGANJI TEMPLE IN TAIPEI ON
AUGUST 23."

MUTO'S ACCOUNT FURTHER SAYS THAT HABIBUR RAHMAN, BOSE'S
ADC AND TSURUTA, A JAPANESE OFFICER, SURVIVED AND BROUGHT
BOSE'S REMAINS TO TOKYO ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1945 AND TOOK THEM TO
THE JAPANESE ARMY HEADQUARTERS. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE ASHES
WERE HANDED OVER TO RAM MURTHY, THE AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT'S
REPRESENTATIVE IN TOKYO.

MURTHY ARRANGED THE TRANSFER OF THE ASHES TO TOKYO'S
RENKOJI TEMPLE ON SEPTEMBER 18 WHEN A FUNERAL SERVICE WAS
PERFORMED AT THE TEMPLE BY REV. MOCHIZUKI. SINCE THEN THE
ASHES HAVE BEEN AT THE RENKOJI AND VISITED BY MANY INDIAN
LEADERS INCLUDING PRESIDENT RAJENDRA PRASAD AND PRIME
MINISTERS JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AND INDIRA GANDHI"

ACCORDING TO MUTO, TWO MEMBERS OF THE THREE MEMBER
COMMITTEE -- SHAH NAWAZKHAN AND MAITRANATH SARKAR -- ACCEPTED
THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAD LED TO NETAJI'S DEATH BUT BOSE'S
BROTHER WAS NOT CONVINCED. MORE PTI CORR SP

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JPNTOKK JPNTOKK JPNTOKP

:BOSE THREE LAST :
BOSE THREE LAST TOKYO

THE WITNESSES, HOWEVER, STRONGLY DENIED SUGGESTIONS OR REPORTS THAT BOSE'S AIRCRASH WAS ENGINEERED BY THE JAPANESE. THEY ALL EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP RESPECTS AND ADMIRATION FOR BOSE AND 'DENIED ANY POSSIBILITY OF BOSE BEING ASSASSINATED BY THE JAPANESE.'

ONE CAUSE OF THE AIRCRASH BRUIED ABOUT IS THAT THE TAIPEH AIRPORT - STILL UNDER JAPAN AT THE TIME - WAS BUSILY PREOCCUPIED WITH A JAPANESE ROYAL FLIGHT AND AS A RESULT THE PLANE CARRYING BOSE RECEIVED LITTLE OR NO PRE-FLIGHT CHECK-UP AFTER IT ARRIVED FROM SAIGON.

WITH MANY PEOPLE IN CALCUTTA REFUSING TO BELIEVE BOSE'S DEATH AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR, THE THEN PREMIER JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU SENT A THREE MEMBER TEAM TO JAPAN IN MAY 1956 TO ENQUIRE INTO THE EPISODE.

THE COMMITTEE BASED ITS CONCLUSIONS ON EVIDENCES GIVEN BY 40 WITNESSES WHO HAD ASSOCIATION WITH BOSE, WRITES MUTO. BUT THE COMMITTEE WAS DIVIDED 2 TO ONE, SURESH BOSE DISSENTING.

THE 65-YEAR OLD DIPLOMAT, WHO HAS DEDICATED HIS RETIREMENT TO 'MAKING INDIA BETTER KNOWN TO THE JAPANESE' HAS WRITTEN TWO BOOKS ON INDIA AND IS WRITING ANOTHER ONE ON SOUTH ASIA. HE HAS ALSO TRANSLATED V.S. NAIPAL'S 'A MILLION MUTINIES' (A BOOK ON INDIA). PTI CORR SP

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PTI NEWS (17.12.1995)

ZCZC PTI028
JPNTOKK JPNTOKK JPNTOKP

WAR VETERANS DEMAND SUBHAS' MEMORIAL IN DELHI
NETAJI

NEW DELHI, DEC 16 (PTI) A STRONG DEMAND FOR SETTING UP A MEMORIAL SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, A LEADING FIGURE OF INDIAN STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE, IN THE CAPITAL TO ENABLE PEOPLE IN INDIA AND ABROAD TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO HIM WAS VOICED HERE BY VETERANS OF AZAD HIND FAUJ (INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY).

THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE MEMORIAL SHOULD BE LAID ON JANUARY 23 TO MARK THE BEGINNING OF THE 100TH YEAR OF NETAJI'S BIRTHDAY, THEY SAID IN A LETTER TO INDIAN PREMIER P V NARASIMHA RAO.

COL.G S DHILLON, CAPT.LAKHSMI SEHGAL AND CAPT.S S YADAVA OF THE ALL INDIA INA COMMITTEE SAID "EVERY EFFORT BE MADE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE THE RETURN OF BOSE'S REMAINS TO INDIA FROM JAPAN, EVEN IF IT MEANT DOING A DNA ANALYSIS TO SATISFY THOSE WHO STILL DOUBT THAT THE CONCERNED ASHES ARE HIS."

THEY ALSO URGED THE PRIME MINISTER TO LAY THE FOUNDATION OF THE PROPOSED MEMORIAL OF BOSE, WHO WAS OFTENLY CALLED AS NETAJI BY ALL INDIANS AT HOME AND ABROAD. PTI VMR SG SPR

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Qy. No. 121 (2)/DEM/95
12.6.95

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S-31/AM/96
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S E C R E T

No. TOK/102/2/92

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866
June 10, 1995

AMBASSADOR

My dear *Salman*,

Kindly refer to your letter no. 576/FS/95 dated 3rd April, 1995. I have taken some time to reply as we wanted to study the situation thoroughly, have some informal discussions with the various people involved and make an assessment of the points mentioned in your letter. I would sum up the position as follows:

2. **Present arrangements:** The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. The Shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about fifty years ago. Once a year, on the occasion of Netaji's death anniversary on August 18, a memorial service is held which is attended by close associates of Netaji and representatives of the Embassy. A list of these associates is attached. It would be noticed that the youngest is 68 years old while the eldest is eighty eight.

3. **Security:** Like in all Shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by Japanese towards religious places. The door is normally kept closed though there is no guarantee that it is always locked. Nobody has ever felt the need to do so. The normal practice is that whenever anybody wants to visit the Shrine the priest is informed and is present during the visit. It might be stressed that this Shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji and there are worshippers who have not necessarily come to pay respect to the ashes. I might mention that any request from us to beef up security is not likely to be received kindly as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us that security should be stepped up could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

4. **"Pressure" for removal of the ashes to India:** In the past there has been an impression that there is growing pressure from the Japanese to take the ashes to India. My impression is that this so called pressure comes more from the associates of Netaji who are getting older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even

Dem

Issued with encl.

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AMEMBASSY

NO. TOK/10212/92

SECRET

Office of the Director, Intelligence
Ministry of India
New Delhi
110 001
Phone: 011-23022391
Fax: 011-23022392
June 10, 1992

Renkoji
bad ground

My dear Sahib

Kindly refer
I have taken some time
thoroughly, have some
and make an assessment
sum up the position as

95 dated 3rd April, 1992.
to study the situation
various people involved
in your letter. I would

2. Present arrangement
right side of the main altar in the shrine (but within
the city of Tokyo. The Shrine is located after by Rev. Yasunori Mochizuki
whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought
the ashes from Taipei about fifty years ago. Once a year, on the occasion
of Netaji's death anniversary on August 18, a memorial service is held which
is attended by close associates of Netaji and representatives of the
Embassy. A list of these associates is attached. It would be noticed that the
youngest is 68 years old while the eldest is eighty eight.

3. Security: Like in all Shrines in Japan, there is no security except what
is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by Japanese towards
religious places. The door is normally kept closed though there is no
guarantee that it is always locked. Nobody has ever felt the need to do so.
The normal practice is that whenever anybody wants to visit the Shrine the
priest is informed and is present during the visit. It might be stressed that
this Shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji and there are
worshippers who have not necessarily come to pay respect to the ashes.
I might mention that any request from us to beef up security is not likely to
be received kindly as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore,
any suggestion from us that security should be stepped up could well revive
the occasional suggestion from the Japanese that we should take the ashes
to India.

4. "Pressure" for removal of the ashes to India: In the past there has
been an impression that there is growing pressure from the Japanese to take
the ashes to India. My impression is that this so called pressure comes
more from the associates of Netaji who are getting older and who feel a
personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them
there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even

among this group the main "pressure" for Netaji's ashes to go back to India is from the older members, especially Mr Hayashi, who is the Secretary of the "Bose Academy" and is in poor health. At the memorial service on 18th August last year he is reported to have said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist traditions and practice" (as far as we are aware, there is no such hard and fast rule of discontinuing memorial services after 50 years). He has also made suggestions on some other occasions that we should consider taking the ashes to India. At the same time, the younger members seem to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony. A note recorded by Minister (Consular) after attending the Memorial Service on August 18, 1994 is enclosed. We are trying to ascertain informally from various members of the group if they will be organising a memorial service this coming August 18. Our impression is that they propose to continue this practice. I would welcome your guidance on whether we should try to play an active role in this regard or merely let the members of the group decide.

5. **The Priest:** Our discussions with the priest, Rev. Mochizuki show that he is quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes. The presence of the ashes gives his temple some additional importance and some additional income by way of the Yen 600,000 that we donate annually for the upkeep of the temple. I feel it might be desirable to increase his motivation and interest by increasing this contribution occasionally. I would suggest that next year we may increase it to Yen one million (Rs. 3,67,782 at this month's official exchange rate). Further increases can be considered occasionally. Rev. Mochizuki told our Minister (Consular), who looks after this matter, that he has absolutely no problem in continuing this work. He also said that his father received these ashes with the blessings of the Governments of Japan and India and that he has no intention of doing anything without full consultation and approval of these two governments.

6. **Foreign Office:** The Foreign Office has occasionally raised this matter with us and have asked whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth (23rd January, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been asked more in the nature of an enquiry than a suggestion. But we know that some members of Netaji's family have occasionally contacted the Japanese authorities with various suggestions. Ashis Ray of CNN, who is the son of Netaji's elder brother, had visited Japan about a year ago and had met the Foreign Office and Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter from his purported German wife, had visited Delhi for discussions with other members of the family and had been in touch with the Japanese Ambassador in Delhi in February 95. She had also written to some

associates of Netaji including Mr. Hayashi. I doubt if the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence. In fact they never raised the matter with us till the visit of Mr. Ashis Ray.

7. **Assessment:** To sum up, Netaji's ashes seem to be housed in an adequate manner but, as is traditional in shrines in Japan, there is no security against any one who might deliberately wish to create problems. Any request to beef up security is not likely to be received kindly but whether they will comply or not can only be known if we were to make such a request or make specific enquiries. My assessment is that if we can point to any specific or concrete threat, they will provide security. But we need to keep in mind the fact that these arrangements without any provision for security have continued for the last fifty years without any problems and unless we have any specific reasons for asking for a change any request is likely to raise eyebrows.

8. While the Japanese will be happier if the ashes were taken to India, I do not see anything on the horizon which might result in any pressure on us to move the ashes in a precipitate manner. This, however, is based on oblique, informal and very discreet enquiries as any open questions by us in this regard are likely to create the impression that we are planning on doing something.

9. As regards contingency plans, we would need to know the exact type of contingency that we are planning for. If it involves a situation where the ashes need to be removed from the temple (which is not foreseen at the moment) and where their return to India is not possible, the only possibility I foresee is to bring them to the Embassy. The Embassy does not, however, have any specific arrangements for public display of these ashes in a manner which is consistent with the present atmosphere of respect and reverence. Suitable facilities would need to be constructed with provision for adequate security. This could take considerable time. Should a contingency arise suddenly, along with a need for greater security, the only viable option for the short term would be to keep the ashes locked up in a strong room in the Embassy. I should point out, however, that bringing the ashes to the Embassy would effectively imply a formal acceptance by the Government of India that these ashes are those of Netaji, which, if my understanding is right, could create its own problems.

10. The ultimate solution is clearly for a consensus to be reached in India for the ashes to go back to India with full honour and ceremony. Till that becomes possible, the best option would seem to be to continue the status-quo as long as possible. I must, however, stress the point that the present arrangements do not provide for any security and that, while no guarantees

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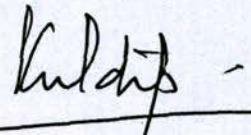
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are possible, these arrangements have continued without any problems for the last fifty years.

11. In the above analysis I have not covered such contingencies as natural calamities like earthquake and fire, which would be difficult to provide for, and riots or social unrest which are not very common here. There is a clear trade off between complete safety and security and public access to Netaji's ashes.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Kuldip Sahdev)

Shri Salman Haidar,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

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LIST OF MEMBERS OF NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE ACADEMY

1. Mr. T. Abe (76) 85-28 Naganuma-machi, Hachimoji-shi
2. Mr. S. Aburaya (72) 7-19-5 Joyo Koto-ku
3. Mr. Y. Ishikawa (74) 1101-13-8-2, Azabu 10 fan, Minato-ku
4. Ms. S. Ikeda (71) 8-23-4, Shimomeguro Meguro-ku
5. Mr. T. Inoue (76) 9-24-2, Syonandai, Fujizawa-shi
6. Mr. J. Iwahara (77) 5C Nakamine Mansion 27-2-5, Akasaka, Minato-ku
7. Mr. S. Okuda (72) 25-21-2, Nishi Azabu, Minato-ku
8. Mr. H. Ohyashiki (73) 902-11-54-3 Wada Suginami-ku
9. Mr. Y. Kanatomi (83) 5-54-3 Izumi-machi, Suginami-ku
10. Ms. C. Tsukamoto (68) " " "
11. Ms. F. Tadokoro (73) 8-47-1 Arakawa, Arakawa-ku
12. Mr. T. Kuwabara (78) 12-29-2 Shirayuri Izumu-ku, Yokohama
13. Mr. T. Negishi (88) 6-8-5 Narita Higashi, Suginami-ku
14. Mr. C. Fujii (76) 12-9-1 Tsuga Wakafa-ku, Chiba-shi
15. Mr. K. Maeda (82) 30-1 Higashi Shinmachi, Itawashi-ku
16. Ms. K. Matsushima (69) 606-10-1-5 Minami Aoyama, Minato-ku
17. Mr. T. Shimoda (73) 6-19-5 Inamuragasaki, Kamakura-shi
18. Mr. K. Sakemi (74) Co-Tateishi, 7-2373 Ohyaguchi, Uraawa-shi
19. Mr. K. Murata (76) 1101-6-11-3 Itobashi-ku
20. Mr. K. Mochizuki (55) 20-30-3 Wada Suginami-ku
PRIEST. (Renkoji Temple)
21. Mr. M. Hayashi (82) 3000 Noforito Tama-ku, Kamasaki-shi

SECRETARY

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On August 18, 1994, I attended the memorial service at the Renkoji Temple organised by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy to mark the 49th death anniversary of Netaji. The organisers called it the 50th memorial service as per the calculations in Buddhist tradition. The memorial service was held at 1 p.m. in the main temple and was conducted by Rev. Mochijuki, son of late Rev. Mochijuki who had received Netaji's ashes at this temple. In view of the announcement of the organisers made earlier that since the members of the Academy were getting old, this will be the last memorial service, about 70 persons attended the service as against 50 last year. After the conclusion of the memorial service at about 2 p.m., all the 70 persons moved to a hall where speeches were delivered by members of the Subhash Chandra Bose Academy and other guests. The speeches mostly related to reminiscences of their association with Netaji and INA. Most of the members of the Academy had known Netaji personally and continue to be enamoured of his personality and great virtues even today. Mr. M. Hayashi, Secretary of the Academy, stated in his speech that according to the Buddhist tradition and practice, 50th memorial service will be the last one and from next year there will be no memorial service. He also stated that he was looking forward to the day when Netaji's ashes will be repatriated with honour to India. Some relatively younger members of the Academy, however, stated in their speeches that they would like to continue remembering Netaji. Towards the end of the function, I was also asked to speak a few words on this occasion. In a brief speech, I thanked Rev. Mochijuki, Mr. Hayashi and other functionaries of the Academy for organising the function. I also hinted in my speech that though we were informed that most of the members of the Academy are old, I, in fact, found lot of young spirit in most of them.

2. Like previous year, the function was also attended by press reporters. One reporter from TV Asahi and two from Kyodo News Service were present. Their names are enclosed. Of these three reporters, Takezumi Ban of Kyodo News Service had contacted me on phone on 17.8.94 afternoon and had asked a few questions. The questions related to the cause of Indian authorities' indecision in taking away the ashes from Renkoji Temple. I told him that the main hurdle was that some of the family members and friends still had doubts in their minds about the death of Netaji in the air crash on August 18, 1945. He further asked if Indian Embassy, Tokyo, would make some arrangement for holding the memorial service in view of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy's decision to discontinue this service from next year. I told them that once the doubts in the minds of relatives and friends of the Netaji were cleared, the entire question of taking care of Netaji's ashes and its repatriation could be decided. He asked some more questions about differences between Gandhiji and Netaji and was informed that their goal was the same, i.e., freedom for India, but the difference was that Gandhiji wanted to adopt non-violence as the means to achieve the goal whereas Netaji wanted

to achieve freedom with force. Hidetoshi Hara, Staff Reporter of Kyodo News Service, asked me some questions after the function on August 18. His first question was if Netaji was still respected in India. I told that Netaji is our national hero and his great qualities of dedication to his ideals and selfless sacrifice for the sake of his country continue to be respected and remembered even today. He further put a question that what would have been the present shape of India if Netaji was alive and returned to India after independence. I sidetracked the question by replying that one cannot possibly imagine history. He also focussed on the differences between Netaji and Gandhiji and was given the reply on the same lines as to the former correspondent. The Asahi TV representative, though introduced herself to me, did not come up with any question. They covered the entire function which will be televised on channel 10 on a day to be fixed later. The coverage on this year's memorial service is yet to appear in the press.

3. During my informal talks with the members of the Academy, I gathered that they have almost decided to carry on this memorial service in future also. While they are keen that Netaji's ashes should be repatriated to India with honour, they nurture the memories of Netaji with great love and respect. Mr. Hayashi's announcement (Secretary of the Academy) during his speech that this year's ceremony was the last memorial service, effectively meant that he himself desired to be relinquished of this responsibility. Other members, younger than Mr. Hayashi (Mr. Futaranosuke Nagoshi, former Professor of Takachiho University located near Netaji Academy, Mr. Kawamura, who was formerly running a Public Accounts Office and Mr. Okuda, Managing Director, Saudi Arab Airlines, Tokyo) are, however, keen to take over this responsibility and carry on the memorial service.

Submitted for information.

Bhushan Jain

(Bhushan Jain)
Minister (C)
22.08.94

Ambassador



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Facsimile Message

~ ~ ~ ~ ~	
TO	FROM
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	
Shri R.S. Kalha, Joint Secretary (AP) MEA <u>New Delhi</u>	N. Ravi Charge d' Affaires Embassy of India <u>Tokyo</u>
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	
Fax No: 301-2113	Fax No: 3262-1273
~ ~ ~ ~ ~	
Total number of pages including cover page: 2	

February 8, 1995

Dear *Shri. Kalha,*

1-29/1/95

A(P)

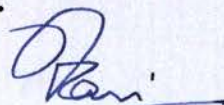
Reference our discussions regarding Renkoji temple. The assistance being extended for maintaining a certain portion of the temple is adequate and its continuance is necessary. No change in this assistance is needed at present. It is more important that frequent and greater visibility be afforded to the ageing, but reasonably active, colleagues of the person whose memory is enshrined at the temple.

As you may be aware, on October 21st, 1993 a function was hosted by the Mission for the ageing colleagues, to coincide with the founding of the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind. It was well received and the participants were duly encouraged. No similar event could be organised later for want of instructions from the Ministry.

In the circumstances, and in view of the approaching birth centenary of the person in question (in 1997), a clear decision to hold an event on January 23 and August 18 of every year in the Mission could be favourably considered. This would assuage the feelings of the ageing colleagues. It may be emphasised here that the form of assistance currently being extended is most suitable and continues to have a favourable influence on the recipient. The point regarding the ageing and the passing from the scene of the Indian leader's ex-colleagues, is a valid one. However, yearly functions with reasonable publicity for these ex-colleagues would help significantly.

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As you are aware, the matter of the final moments in the life of the former leader is currently sub-judice in a Calcutta Court. It would help matters a great deal if suitable steps were taken to facilitate an early decision, by concentrating all energies on helping establish the fact of the final moments, in Court. Once a decision is available, the matter of extending assistance to the temple would automatically resolve itself. Any change in the assistance being extended should be considered only if the courts are unable to hand down a decision to the satisfaction of all concerned parties. If as a result of the decision of the court, the memory can indeed be better preserved in India, the matter would get resolved quite easily. And if this happens before 1997 January, it would be most appropriate.



(N. Ravi)

Charge d' Affaires



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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-110011

February 7, 1995

F A X M E S S A G E

From. Foreign New Delhi

To : Indembassy Tokyo Fax No.00 81 3 3234 4806.

C.D.A. from JS(AP)

Please ring me up urgently tomorrow
morning between 7 to 8 A.M. at my residence
telephone No. 621 0461.

R. S. Kalha

(R.S. Kalha)
Joint Secretary(AP)

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YOMIURI SHINBUN DECEMBER 1, 1995

Broad Exchange is Expected between Japan and India (Kumao Kaneko)

Subash Chandra Bose who organized the Indian National Army in Singapore in order to overthrow the English control and colonial power, attended the meeting in Japan in 1943, and died in Taiwan in a plane crash accident. Old Japanese can remember his eventful life.

His bones have been kept in Renkoji Temple located in Tokyo and have not been returned to India, because some people in India have a strong belief that he is still alive.

I visited Bose's birth place and memorial museum on my way back from a business trip to New Delhi. His nephew is working as a curator of the memorial museum. According to him, the exhibition will be extended for the 100th anniversary of Bose's birthday in January, 1997. He is planning to construct Netaji International Exchange Center as an exchange place for politics, diplomacy, economics, culture and environment problems in Asia and Oceania. Japanese positive cooperation including financial aid is expected. The Japanese Embassy and Consulate in India showed a positive reaction to the proposal, which, however, lacks enthusiasm when compared with the Indian side's eagerness.

Recently India and Japan relations cannot be said to be very close. Indian leaders have paid visits to Japan recently. On the other hand, however, the Japanese leaders' visit to India has not taken place since Kuranari Foreign Minister's visit in 1987. (Kaifu, Prime Minister visited India in 1990 and Hashimoto, Minister of MITI in 1995)

Japanese interest in the Indian market has been increasing recently, because of a long stubborn deflation in Japan. Japanese investment amount is ranked sixth. Steady increase in investment can be expected.

Japanese interest in India is concentrated only on economics, not on politics and culture. I felt Indian leaders' dissatisfaction toward Japan owing to a lack of cultural and political exchanges between India and Japan, when I visited India this time.

May kindly see.

Kaneko
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Ambar...

154

There are many Indian leaders such as R. Pal, a judge who insisted on Japanese innocence, (at the Tokyo trials); Tagore, a poet, who emphasized the friendship between India and Japan; and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Now is our time to answer sincerely to Indian expectations, which its eminent leaders have built, at the risk of their lives, toward Japan.

(Takamura)

Natiji

15

日印望まれる広範な交流

「ネタジ」(指導者)——インドでガンジーやネルーと並び、今なお多くの人々に追慕されているスバス・チャンドラ・ボースの敬称である。英国の植民地支配を打倒するため、一九四二年二月カルカッタを単身国外脱出、シンガポールで「インド国民軍」(INA)を結成、一九四三年十一月東京で大東亜会議にも出席したが、日本降伏の三日後、台湾で飛行機事故のため、雄図空しく死去したと伝えられる彼の、文字通り波乱万丈の生涯は、年配の日本人ならよく記憶していよう。

ただし、インドでは、彼の死は偽りで、今でもどこかで生存していると固く信じている人が少なくなく、そのため彼の「遺骨」は東京・杉並区の蓮光寺に保管されたまま、いまだに母国に引き取られていない。この辺の事情は、十月二十四日付本紙夕刊でも詳しく紹介された。

私は、九月下旬、国際交流基金の助成を得て、外交講演

のためニューヨークに一週間出張した帰途、カルカッタに立ち寄り、ネタジの生家・記念館を訪問した。甥のシシル・K・ボース氏が館長を務めるこの記念館には、ネタジの部屋が当時のまま保存され、自筆の日記、書簡、演説草稿など貴重な資料が多数展示されている。ただ、財政的な制約から、保存状態はお世辞

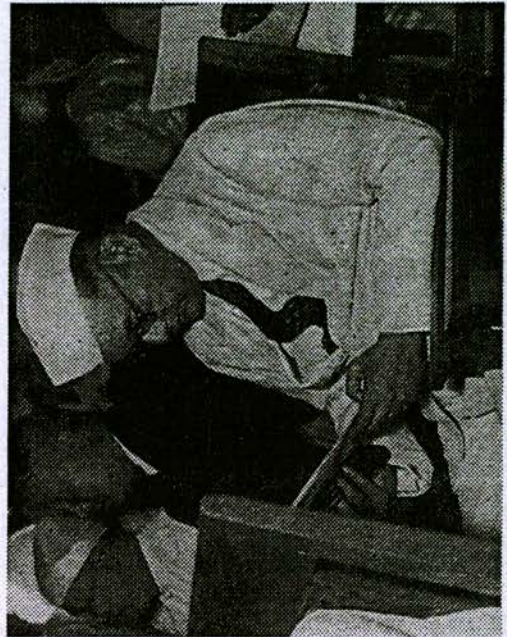
にもよいとは言えない。館長によれば、明後年一月のネタジ生誕百周年を機に、展示を大幅に拡充すると共に、ネタジとその時代に関する歴史研究、さらにはアジア太平洋の政治、外交、経済、文化、環境問題など広範な学術研究交流の場として、「ネタジ国際交流センター」(仮称)の建設計画が進んでいる。このため日本にも、財政支

援を含め積極的な協力が期待されており、現地の日本大使館や総領事館もできる限り前向きに対応するとしているが、インド側の熱意に比べると、日本側の反応は、今一つ盛り上がりには欠けるようだ。確かに、ネタジの行動や業績については学術的に未解明の部分が多々あり、日本との関係についても、本洋戦



おまね 金子 熊子

はずだ。だから、今でもインド国民の根強い尊敬を勝ち得ているのである。翻って近年の日印関係は、先方からは、真の来日比較の頻繁なのに、我が方からは、一九八七年の倉成外相訪印以来、年々外相レベルの訪問が途絶えていることから明



インドで今なお多くの人々に追慕されている「ネタジ」(指導者)の故スバス・チャンドラ・ボース

「脱」経済偏重、知的レベルも

故ボースらが築いた日本への信頼に応える番

結以後は、西側先進諸国への接近を強めており、日本への期待は極めて高い。また今後、二十一世紀のアジア太平洋の安全保障体制を構築する上で、日印関係は、日本にとって、もう一つの重要な視座であらう。ただ、日本の対印関心がもたらす経済面に集中し、政治、文化面を含めた知的レベルの交流が著しく欠けているのが、インドの指導層に蓄積しているのを、私は今回の訪印でもよく感じた。

かつて「アジアは一つ」と喝破した岡倉天心と意気投合して、日印友好を力説した詩聖タゴール、東京裁判でただ一人「日本無罪論」を主張したバール判事、そしてネタジ・チャンドラ・ボース。これらの傑出したインド人が命懸けで築き、今日に引き継いできた日本への信頼と期待に、今度は私たち日本人が誠意をもって応えるべき番ではなかろうか。(東海大学教授・国際政治学、元外交官)

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NETAJI
FREEDOM FIGHTERS FOR RETURN OF INA CHIEF'S ASHES FROM TOKYO
NETAJI

NEW DELHI, DEC 13 (PTI) THREE VETERANS OF THE ERSTWHILE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA) WEDNESDAY URGED INDIAN PREMIER P V NARASIMHA RAO TO TAKE STEPS TO FACILITATE RETURN OF INA CHIEF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE'S REMAINS FROM TOKYO TO INDIA.

COL GURBAKSH SINGH DHILLON, CAPT LAKSHMI SEHGAL AND CAPT S S YADAVA, WHO MET RAO IN THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SAID FORMER FREEDOM FIGHTER NETAJI'S REMAINS HAD BEEN KEPT AT TOKYO'S RENKOJI TEMPLE FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS.

THEY ALSO REQUESTED HIM TO DIRECT THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT CONCERNED TO TAKE UP THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NETAJI MEMORIAL IN THE CAPITAL NEW DELHI AS PART OF THE ENSUING CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS BEING HELD IN NETAJI'S MEMORY.

IN AN INTERVIEW TO CNN IN MIYAZAKI IN JAPAN, DR. TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI, WHO TREATED NETAJI FOR INJURIES SUSTAINED IN A PLANE CRASH AT TAIHOKU ON AUGUST 18, 1945, RECALLED THE LAST MOMENTS OF THE INA CHIEF - ONE OF THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE INDIAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE.

"BOSE WAS CARRIED TO HOSPITAL IN A TRUCK, WITH OTHER PATIENTS. HE WAS THEN LIFTED BY EIGHT OR TEN PEOPLE, SOLDIERS AND NURSES TO A ROOM. HIS ENTIRE BODY WAS BURNT. THE COLOUR OF HIS SKIN WAS LIKE OXIDISED SILVER AND HIS HAIR WERE COMPLETELY BURNT," THE DOCTOR RECOUNTED. MORE PTI VMN VLC SRE

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Pl. ensure action

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NETAJI 2 LAST

NETAJI 2 LAST

NEWDEL

DR YOSHIMI, 82, SAID NETAJI WAS CONSCIOUS BUT IN SEVERE PAIN. "BUT HE NEVER COMPLAINED AT ANY TIME." HOWEVER, HE ASKED FOR WATER TO DRINK -- IN JAPANESE -- SAYING MIZU, MIZU MANY TIMES. HE DIED BEFORE MIDNIGHT.

THE DOCTOR SAID WITH THE THIRD DEGREE BURNS SUSTAINED BY THE INDIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER, "I THOUGHT IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE (HIS SURVIVAL)."

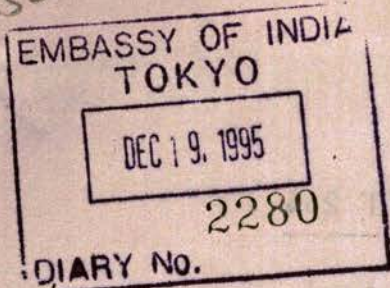
DR YOSHIMI, WHO MADE NETAJI'S DEATH CERTIFICATE, SPOKE TO HIM THROUGH AN INTERPRETER.

DR YOSHIMI : WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

NETAJI: MY MEN (THOSE OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AZAD HIND (INDEPENDANT INDIA) AND AZAD HIND FAUJ - INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY) WILL COME LATER. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THEM. HOW IS THE CONDITION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL SHIDEI (WHO WAS ON THE SAME FLIGHT AS NETAJI AND WHO DIED INSTANTANEOUSLY)? I FEEL AS IF BLOOD IS RUSHING TO MY HEAD. I WOULD LIKE TO SLEEP FOR A WHILE".

THE DOCTOR SAID AT THAT STAGE HE GAVE NETAJI AN INJECTION (POSSIBLY A PAIN KILLER). NETAJI FELL ASLEEP AND AFTER SOME TIME, HE WAS NO MORE. PTI VMN VLC SRE

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 266

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RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 266
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 1995
BRINGING BACK NETAJI'S ASHES

266. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :

विदेश मंत्री

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring back to India Netaji's ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple near Tokyo;

(b) if so, whether the consent of Netaji's wife who is residing in Germany, has been taken for the purpose; and

(c) if the answers to Parts 'a' and 'b' above be in the affirmative, what plans are being drawn up to pay a befitting homage to the great Freedom Fighter?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

विदेश मंत्री

(a) & (b) : No final view has been taken on this matter till now.

(c) A National Committee to celebrate Netaji's birth centenary has been set up. The first meeting of National Committee to commemorate the birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is scheduled to be held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on November 30, 1995.

Copy forwarded to

The Embassy of India, Tokyo

NO C/125/25/95-JP
विदेश मन्त्रालय, नई दिल्ली.
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

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राज्य सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 266

29 नवम्बर, 1995 ————— 8 अगष्टायण, 1917 ईश्वर

को राज्य सभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी की अस्थियों का वापस लाया जाना

प्रश्न संख्या 266

श्री वी. नारायणसाहू :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

॥क॥ क्या टोक्यो के समीप हैंकोजी मंदिर में रखी गयी नेताजी की अस्थियों को भारत में वापस लाने के संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

॥ख॥ यदि हां, तो क्या जर्मनी में रह रही नेता जी की पत्नी की, इस प्रयोजनार्थ सम्मति ले ली गयी है; और

॥ग॥ यदि उपयुक्त भाग ॥क॥ और ॥ख॥ का उत्तर "हां" में हो, तो इस महान् स्वतंत्रता सेनानी को उपयुक्त श्रद्धांजली देने के लिए क्या - क्या योजना बनायी जा रही है'

उत्तर

श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी.

विदेश मंत्री

॥क॥ तथा ॥ख॥ इस मामले के संबंध में अब तक कोई अन्तिम दृष्टिकोण नहीं अपनाया है ।

॥ग॥ नेताजी की 100 जन्म शताब्दी मनाने के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय समिति का गठन किया गया है । नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की जन्म शताब्दी स्मारक राष्ट्रीय समिति की पहली बैठक प्रधान मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में 30 नवम्बर, 1995 को होगी ।

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 112

TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH NOVEMBER 1995

ASHES OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE



112. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS विदेश मंत्री
be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have decided to bring back ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan so as to install the ashes in a suitable memorial during the centenary celebrations which begin early next year;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the cautious steps that have been taken to confirm that the ashes kept in Renkoji Temple near Tokyo are his ashes; and

(d) the details of the proposed activities connected with the birth centenary celebrations of Netaji which begin in January, 1996?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA)

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(a) No final view has been taken on this matter till now.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two Commissions of Enquiry appointed by the Govt. of India and an enquiry by Japanese authorities have concluded that the ashes in Renkoji Temple are those of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

(d) A national Committee to celebrate Netaji's birth centenary has been set up. The first meeting of National Committee to commemorate the birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is scheduled to be held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on November 30, 1995.

विदेश मन्त्रालय, नई दिल्ली.
Ministry of External Affairs

NOC/125/20/95-JS (E-A-9m)

29.11.95

copy forwarded to :-
The Embassy of India, Tokyo.

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लोक सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं. 112

27 नवम्बर, 1995 ----- 6 अगष्टायण, 1917 शक
को लोकसभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिए जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की अस्थियां

प्रश्न सं. 112

श्री मनत कुमार मंडल

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

॥ क॥ क्या सरकार ने नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की अस्थियों को जापान से वापस लाने का निर्णय किया है ताकि उनके जन्म शताब्दी समारोह के दौरान जो आगामी वर्ष के प्रारम्भ में शुरू हो रहा है, उनकी अस्थियों को एक उचित स्मारक में स्थापित किया जा सके,

॥ ख॥ यदि हाँ, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

॥ ग॥ यह सुनिश्चित करने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं कि टोक्यो के निकट "रेकोजी टेम्पल" में रखी अस्थियाँ उनकी ही हैं; और

॥ घ॥ जनवरी, 1996 से शुरू होने वाले नेताजी के जन्म शताब्दी समारोह से संबंधित पुस्तकालय कार्यकलापों का ब्यौरा क्या है।

उत्तर

श्री रघुनंदन लाल भाटिया

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

॥ क॥ इस मामले के संबंध में कोई अन्तिम दृष्टिकोण नहीं अपनाया गया है।

॥ ख॥ प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

॥ ग॥ भारत सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त दो जांच आयोगों तथा जापानी प्राधिकारियों द्वारा की गई जांच से यह निष्कर्ष निकला है कि रेकोजी टेम्पल में रखी हुई अस्थियाँ नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की ही हैं।

॥ घ॥ नेताजी के जन्म शताब्दी समारोह मनाने के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय समिति का गठन किया गया है। नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की जन्म शताब्दी समारोह मनाने से सम्बद्ध राष्ट्रीय समिति की पहली बैठक प्रधान मंत्री की अध्यक्षता में 30 नवम्बर, 1995 को होगी।

Govt shifts stand on Netaji's ashes

By M. K. Tikku

NEW DELHI, Oct. 26

Dr Anita Pfaff, daughter of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, has agreed to serve as a member of a National Memorial Committee to be constituted shortly with Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao as its chairman.

The Committee will take charge of all the activities connected with the birth centenary celebrations of Netaji which begin next January.

Last Sunday afternoon, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee drove to Augsburg, about 60 kms from Munich in southern Germany, to meet Mrs Anita Pfaff, who teaches economics at the local university. Her husband, Dr Martin Pfaff, also an economics professor is a Social Democrat member of the German Parliament. Mr Mukherjee, who spent a whole evening at the Pfaffs home was accompanied by Indian ambassador S. K. Lamba and an aide of the Minister.

Mr Mukherjee informed her that during the centenary year, the Government proposed to bring back Netaji's ashes from Japan and have these installed at a suitable memorial with due ceremony and honour. This marks a noticeable shift in the Government's position which had earlier informed the Parliament that the ashes, which have been lying at the Renokoji temple in Japan,

would be brought to India only after "a national consensus" was evolved resolving the controversy surrounding the circumstances of his mysterious death or disappearance, half a century ago.

The shift in the Government's position and its apparent keenness to cap the controversy, as it were, seems to have been triggered by a recent report suggesting that three Calcutta-based scholars had in fact come across documents in the Russian archives indicating that Netaji had been staying in the Soviet Union sometime after his supposed death in the 1945 air crash.

The three scholars — Dr Hari Vasudevan, Dr Sobhan Lal Dutta Gupta and Dr Purabi Roy — who had visited Moscow on behalf of the Asiatic Society, had access to a member of archival documents, including some KGB files, in the Russian capital.

In the course of the Sunday evening meeting in Augsburg, Mr Mukherjee had shown some papers

to Mrs Pfaff that contained a response from the Russian Government to a query on the subject made by New Delhi earlier. In its reply, the Russian Government had stated that though the former Soviet regime had had some contacts with Netaji during the war, there had been none after the war was over.

Mr Mukherjee argued that this was conclusive proof that stories speaking of Netaji's life (and death) in the Soviet Union were without basis. He assured his host that his senior colleagues in the Government as well as himself had great admiration for Netaji and they would ensure that his birth centenary year was observed in a befitting manner.

Mr Mukherjee stressed that it would be in the fitness of things that she should attend the first meeting of the National Memorial Committee. Mrs Pfaff indicated that she could be free from her university duties only during the Christmas break, and so could come to India only towards the end of December.

It was agreed the inaugural meeting of the Committee would be convened around that time.

Though the Minister tied it up rather neatly at the Augsburg end during the weekend visit, some members of the Bose family in India do not even appear half as enthusiastic about the development. According to their understanding, the three Calcutta academics have a lot more up their sleeves based on the KGB documents they got to see in Moscow and the rather bland denial of the Russian Government of 1992 vintage does not clear the picture.

They suspect that after the cavalier treatment meted out to Netaji all these years, the ruling party's new-found admiration for him may just be used to extract political mileage during an election year. They strongly feel that the least that could be done is to ask the Russian Government for a fresh response in the light of the three scholars' findings.

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including "13/11", "FS (R&P) / APP", and a circled "117".

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MPS(EAM).
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Yomiuri Shinbun October 24, 1995

NEW WAVE, S.CHANDRA BOSE, SUPREME COMMANDER OF INA

(By Hayashi from New Delhi)

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Subhas Chandra Bose who led India's freedom struggle against the U.K. in alliance with the Japanese army during W.W.II as a supreme commander of the INA. His bereaved family and former officers of the INA launched a campaign for the return of Bose's ashes from Japan to India. In Japan many people are also wishing to return the ashes to India.

The ashes have been kept at the Renkoji Temple in Suginami, Tokyo. The Japanese army tried to advance into India from Burma in alliance with the INA. But so-called the Imphal Military Operation inflicted a fatal blow to the INA. Bose decided to go to Manchuria aboard a bomber of the Japanese army. He was killed in an air crash over Taipei on August 18, 1945.

His funeral was held at the Renkoji Temple. At a request of a INA's Representative Office in Japan, the temple agreed to keep the ashes for the time being. Since then no Indian government has ever claimed the return of the ashes to India.

People including Mr. Ashish Roy, a New Delhi based journalist and Bose's nephew, former INA's Colonel Gurubakhsh Dhillon, and former Army Captain S. Yadav are lending their voices in aid of a (plan) to return the ashes before 1997 which marks Bose's birth centennial. Mr. Roy and others have asked the Indian Government to make an official request to the temple for the return of the ashes. They also asked the Japanese Government to furnish the materials with regard to the death of Bose.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of his death and the centenary birth anniversary of Chandra Bose, Mr. Roy and others are planning to hold various functions. On October 21, as part of the program, they started up a "Freedom India Grand March". "I hope the Indian government and its people will acknowledge that Bose is a hero of the freedom struggle. We will make preparation for a plan to hold a government-sponsored ceremony to receive the ashes of the hero." said Mr. Roy.

Each Indian government was reluctant to handle this delicate issue, which caused great delay in the settlement of the issue. Public opinion and historians' views are

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sharply divided into two over the evaluation of Bose. "Bose was elected president of the Congress which had played a leading role in an independence movement of India. Calling for armed struggle in alliance with Japan and Nazi Germany, Bose was confronted with Mahatma Gandhi over a policy of non-violence. Bose had left the party. Bose has been regarded as a 'radical dissident' by many historians" said Mr. Bipan Chandra.

Bose is respected as a hero in his native state of West Bengal. Some people who still have an anti-British sentiment are of the opinion;-" Thanks to a strong protest movement against British-led INA trial after W.W.II, a speed of India's independence was accelerated."

Bose formed the Forward Bloc after he left the Congress. Many members of the Bloc do not believe Bose's death in air crash as "a fabricated story." Indian government's investigation in 1956 failed to produce objective evidence to show that the ashes were real ashes of Bose. Thus they could hardly accept (Bose's death). Even some of the bereaved family believe that Bose is still alive.

"We can persuade those who are opposing to the return of the ashes. It is a matter of time." said Mr. Roy. "I can not die before the ashes of the hero is returned." said Mr. Yadav who is over 70-year old. However, consensus over the ashes has not ^{been} built yet even today.

ニューウエーブ



S.チャンドラ・ボース

インド国民軍指導者

第二次大戦中、「インド国民軍」(INA)を率いて日本軍と協力、対英独立闘争を続けたスバス・チャンドラ・ボースの没後五十年に当たる今年、「日本に眠る遺骨をインドへ持ち帰ろう」という運動がインドの遺族や国民軍元将校の間に広がっている。遺骨の帰国を願う人は日本にも多く、運動は注目を集めている。(ニューデリー・林路郎)

遺骨を保管しているのは、東京都杉並区にある蓮光寺の望月康史住職。国民軍は、日本軍がビルマから英領インドへ進攻を図ったインパール作戦参加で壊滅

状態となり、終戦を迎えた。ボースはソ連での闘争続行を志し、満州行きを決意。日本軍の爆撃機で移動したが、四五年八月十八日に台北で同機が墜落、祖国独立を見ずに他界した。蓮光寺はボースの葬儀が行われた所。国民軍日本代表部の求めで遺骨の一時保管に応じたが、歴代インド政府から返還要請がないまま今日に至った。返還の動きが盛り上がったのは、今年が没後五十年

第二次大戦中の

「日本に眠る遺骨、祖国へ」

のため。ボースのおいの息子に当たるニューデリー在住の放送記者アシシ・ライ氏や、グルバクシユ・ディロン元国民軍大佐、S・ヤ



蓮光寺に保管されているボースの遺骨と望月康史住職

「ボースが独立の英雄であることを、政府や国民に認識させたい。遺骨返還を、英雄にふさわしいインドの国家行事とする地ならしをする」(ライ氏)

遺骨が祖国へ戻れなかった背景には、歴史評

遺族、元将校ら返還運動

樹立されたシンガポールを始点にマレーシア、タイ、ミャンマーを経由し、インド・マニプール州へ至る国民軍の足取りをジープ型車でたどり、そのままニューデリーへ入城する「自由インド大遠征」も今月二十一日から四十二日間の日程が始まった。

師や政治問題など微妙な要索が絡み、歴代政権が処理を避けてきた事情がある。実際、ボースについて世

身地・西ベンガル州では、彼は英雄。反英感情を残す一部国民は「戦後、英政府主導で行われた国民軍裁判に対して起きた大反対運動こそ独立の速度を速めた」と見る。また、政治的要因として

旧日本軍と協力・対英独立闘争・非暴力・ガンジーと対立・・・

ダブ元大尉らが「生誕百年(九七年)以前の返還」を目指し、動きだした。ライ氏は「このほど、インド政府に対して「寺に公的な返還要請をしてほしい」と要望。日本政府にも「ボース死」のいきさつに関する資料を公開してほしい」と求めた。ライ氏は没後五十年と生誕百年にちなみ、様々な行事も計画。ボースを首班に「自由インド仮政府」が

遺骨返還を訴えるディロン元大佐(中央)ら推進派の人たち(林路郎撮影)



英雄×異端者 評価二分 歴代政府は二の足

論や歴史家の評価は真つ二つに割れる。ボースは独立時に指導的役割を果たす「国民会議派」総裁まで務めたが、日本、ナチス・ドイツとの連携による武闘路線を提唱し、非暴力路線を貫いたマハトマ・ガンジーと対立して離党した。ガンジーの功績を正史とみる歴史家の多くは、ボースを「急進的異端者」(ヒパン・チャンドラ氏)とする。これに対し、ボースの出

は、ボースが会議派離党後に結成した左翼政党フォワード・ブロックの存在がある。同党員は長く「墜落死説はでたらめ」と主張。五六年にやっと始まったインド政府の調査についても、遺骨がボースのものだと客観的に証明し得る材料がなかったため、「納得できない」としてきた。

さらには、遺族の一部にも「ボースは生きている。遺骨の返還などあり得ない」との意見がある。

返還推進派の方でも、ライ氏は「反対者の説得は時間の問題」と冷静だが、七十歳を超えるヤダブ氏ら高齢者の中には「英雄の帰国を果たしてからでなければ死ねない」とする人もおり、今も遺骨を巡る思いは複雑に交錯している。

22.10.95

Pranab's mission revives Netaji's death row

From Subhamoy Chatterjee

CALCUTTA, Oct. 21 External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee's reported unscheduled airdash from New York to Germany yesterday to try and secure consent of Netaji's wife, Mrs Emily Shenkel Basu and daughter, Ms Anita Basu, on bringing "Netaji's ashes" from Japan has raked up the controversy over the great patriot's death in the Taihoku aircrash.



Turn to page 4

The Forward Bloc, veteran followers of Netaji and some of his close relations have also called into question, the motive of the ruling party at the Centre in attempting this at a time when some recent findings claim to have pointed to Netaji's having been in Siberian Russia a year after the alleged crash.

A front page news item in the mass circulation *Ananda Bazar Patrika* today reported that Mr Mukherjee's Berlin mission, apparently undertaken with the knowledge of the Prime Minister, was received with a sense of shock and suspicion by Netaji's ardent supporters. It was said in the story that Mr Mukherjee was trying to bring back the "ashes", kept in the Renkoji Temple near Tokyo for over four decades, to India so that the nation could pay a befitting homage to the great leader in his centenary year. The authorities in Japan, which the External Affairs Minister visited recently, had also expressed the wish that the "ashes" of the INA commander-in-chief be taken to his own country.

Commenting on this development, Forward Bloc's

general secretary Chitta Basu, said that the party made its position clear after the Prime Minister had issued a statement in Singapore that the Government of India could not bring back the ashes due to the Opposition of some political parties, indirectly implying Forward Bloc. Mr Basu said he had written to Mr Rao that the late Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, had told Parliament that the Government received some information subsequent to the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan and Khosla Committees. On the basis of that it could be said that the aircrash was not the conclusive proof of Netaji's death. This continued to be the Government's position.

"Unless he died in the aircrash, how can you say that this was his ashes," the Forward Bloc leader asked. Mr Basu also said that he had a discussion with Mr Mukherjee at the personal level. The latter had said he would resume the dialogue which he never did.

Netaji's nephew, Mr Amiya Nath Basu, said he had written to the Prime Minister stating that there was sufficient evidence of Netaji's

being in Russia in 1946. He said that an American bomber crashed at Taihoku in 1944 and photographs of the wreckage "were attempted to be passed off as the damaged plane in which Subhas Chandra Bose was alleged to be travelling". He demanded that the Government of India ask the Government of Russia to allow examination of the KGB files and request the Governments of the UK and the USA to disclose their intelligence files about Netaji.

He alleged that a request had been made on behalf of the Government of India not to show any file regarding Netaji to Indian scholars visiting that country. The allusion was to the visit by a team from the Asiatic Society in Calcutta.

According to Mr Samar Guha, a Netaji's follower and a former member of the Lok Sabha, the Society team had stumbled on some "revealing facts" indicating that Netaji was in Omsk, a town near Bladivostok in Siberia. Similar indications were given by Mr Vinogradov, a Russian scholar, in a journal named "Echoplanety" in 1992.

Mr Guha alleged that the Society

scholars were not allowed to visit Omsk, Mr Mukherjee, he alleged, had summoned the Indian Ambassador in Russia, Mr Ramen Sen to Delhi and also met the Society scholars. He allegedly asked them "not to go ahead with their inquiries". It was after this that Mr Mukherjee visited Japan. He said Mr Mukherjee had tried to seek the consent of Netaji's wife and daughter before on the question of bringing the so-called ashes. Now he was trying his best as "things are coming to a climax".

Incidentally, there is a petition before the Supreme Court challenging the conferment of the Bharat Ratna to Netaji "posthumously".

Mr Amiya Nath Basu said getting the consent of Anita Basu who could not have any information regarding the Taihoku aircrash "has no probative value and is of no consequence". He said he had told the Prime Minister in his letter that it would be "an act of sacrilege to foist the Renkoji Temple ashes on the people of India when they are not the ashes of Subhas Chandra Bose".

G. A. CHANDRU

Pl. file.

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N. Ravi
Minister/Deputy Chief of Mission

No.TOK/102/2/92

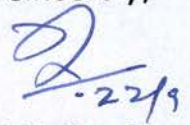
September 22, 1995

Dear

Please refer to your letter No.4048/JS(EA)/95 dated 4th September, 1995. We have initiated action to ascertain whether film clippings on Netaji's activities are available here. We will keep you posted about further progress in this regard.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


epc (N. Ravi)

Shri T.C.A. Rangachari,
Joint Secretary (EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi



T.C.A. Rangachari
Joint Secretary(EA)

Tele:3012760

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-110011

167

No. 6048 /JS(EA) /95

4 September, 1995

Dear Shri Ravi,

I am annexing a copy of a letter from the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation addressed to EAM.

→ 2. You might wish to have some discreet enquiries made as to whether any such film clippings exist.

Grateful let me know if M/s. Okuda and any of his associates can help.

Yours sincerely,

T.C.A. Rangachari
(T.C.A. Rangachari)

M/C

Shri N. Ravi,
Deputy Chief of Mission,
Embassy of India,
TOKYO.

The Secretary of the Academy, who can help in this, is away to his native village and would be back by the end of this month. I would take it up with him immediately on his return.

19.9.95

Ray pl. see for information.

Ambar...

H. sent interim reply.

T.C.A. Rangachari
20/9

Dit. 20/9
Ad

S-1256/20ml81
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66 8523
PHONE : 66 1242
6867617

61010-211-1111
4/8/20

(168)

ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION

RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF FREEDOM MOVEMENT

Working President :

SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE, ex - M. P.

General Secretary :

SHASHI BHUSHAN, ex M.P.

SECULAR HOUSE

9/1, Institutional Area, (Opp. JNU)

Aruna Asaf Ali Marg,

NEW DELHI - 110 067

August 30, 1995

Dear Shri Pranab Mukherjee,

J>(EA)

For us freedom fighters, it is a culmination of our persistent effort over a period of nearly three decades that National Museum of the INA in the Salimgarh Fort and the National Museum of Freedom Movement (from the Battle of Plassey in 1757 to the Movement for Merger of Princely States in the Union of India in 1948-49 and the Liberation of Goa in 1961) are being established.

I write this to seek your help in making the National Museum of the INA a grand repository of the heroic record of the Indian National Army as well as of the life and work of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As you know, some filmed record of the activities of Netaji was prepared by the Japanese and it must be preserved in the Japanese archives.

It shall be highly appropriate the film clippings of the days of formation of the INA are obtained from Japan and perserved in the INA Museum so that these might be available for research scholars and might also be used for making a film on the life of Netaji.

I request you to kindly write to the Foreign Minister of the Japanese Government and also to our Ambassador in Tokyo to procure these documentary films of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan for the National Museum of the INA.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shashi Bhushan,

(Shashi Bhushan)
ex-M.P.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee,
Minister of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

1856

42

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Ashes not of Netaji, says nephew

The Times of India News
Service

CALCUTTA, September 4: Amiya Nath Bose, nephew of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the eldest surviving member of the Bose family, has in a letter to Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, made it clear that the family did not consider the ashes preserved at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo belonged to Netaji.

Mr. Bose has written the letter in the context of the Prime Minister's recent remark while on a visit to Malaysia about the difficulties in bringing back to India the ashes of Netaji from the Renkoji temple in Tokyo.

In his reply, the Prime Minister said he had taken note of the contents of Mr Bose's letter.

In his letter, Mr Bose said he had conclusive documentary evidence that Netaji was alive in the Soviet Union till July 22, 1946. He had no knowledge what happened to Netaji after that date. "But one thing is certain that the ashes kept at the Renkoji temple are not the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose," he asserted.

Mr Bose said he was convinced that there had not been any air crash at Taihoku airport on August 18, 1945, when Netaji was believed to have been killed. He said U.S. intelligence reports said the photograph of the damaged plane shown was in fact that of an American bomber which crashed at Taihoku airport in 1944.

The letter also discloses the fact that Gandhiji, after talking to Col. Habibur Rahaman who accompanied Netaji in the plane journey from Saigon to Taihoku, came to the conclusion that Netaji had not died in the air crash. In fact, Gandhiji forebade Netaji's family to perform any shradh ceremony.

11 THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ASSURED THAT THE REMAINS OF NETAJI SUBHASH
CHANDRA BOSE AND OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY
WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF AND BROUGHT TO INDIA FROM JAPAN WHEN THE
APPROPRIATE TIME COMES STOP MR NARASIMHA RAO ASSURED A FREEDOM
FIGHTER, WHO IS SETTLED IN MALAYSIA THAT THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT
AT PRESENT FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO ACT ON THIS ISSUE BECAUSE THERE
ARE SOME WHO SAY THAT NETAJI IS STILL ALIVE STOP ITEM

118

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Netaji
File
ENDS INDINFO

N

FOREIGN

COLLS A-122/MEA/RP/TOKYO/D42150

NNNN



AMBASSADOR

(71)

SECRET

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

No. TOK/102/2/92

August 25, 1995

My dear *Ranga,*

Please refer to the correspondence concerning the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. As you are aware, a memorial service is held every year on August 18, which is the death anniversary of Netaji. This ceremony is normally attended by Minister (Consular) in the Embassy.

2. I attach a copy of a note recorded by Minister (Consular) after he attended this year's ceremony. You will notice that the remarks by the Priest and others confirm our assessment sent earlier that there should be no problem in continuing to keep the ashes in their present location till other arrangements can be made.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

K. Sahdev

(Kuldip Sahdev)

Shri T.C.A. Rangachari,
Joint Secretary (EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

Immed with encl.

Pl. file 25/8

25/8

A(P)

(12)

On Aug. 18, 1995, I attended the memorial service at the Renkoji Temple organised by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy to mark the 50th death anniversary. It may be recalled that the organisers had called last year's memorial service as the 50th memorial service "as per the calculations of the Buddhist tradition." This year's ceremony also was called the 50th memorial service. On my casual query with the organisers, they replied with a smile. It appears that the "Buddhist tradition was used by Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Academy, last year to support his announcement that last year's memorial service was going to be the last service - being the 50th memorial service.

2. The memorial service was held at 1 p.m. in the main temple and was conducted by Rev. Mochizuki, son of late Rev. Mochizuki who had received Netaji's ashes at this temple. About 50 persons attended the service this year like in previous years. Only last year the attendance was about 70 because of the announcement that that was going to be the last memorial service. After the conclusion of the memorial service at about 2 p.m. all the 50 persons moved to a hall where speeches were delivered by members of the Subhash Chandra Bose Academy and other guests. The speeches mostly related to reminiscences of their association with Netaji and INA as most of the members of the Academy had known Netaji personally and remember Netaji with great personal regard and affection. Towards the end of the function, I was also asked to speak a few words. In a brief speech, I thanked Rev. Mochizuki, Mr. Hayashi and other functionaries of the Academy for organising the function. I pointed out that the function organised this year witnessed much more enthusiasm and dynamism among the members of the Academy. As desired by the Ambassador, I also informed the audience that our Foreign Minister Shri Pranab Mukerjee is planning to visit Tokyo on the invitation of the government of Japan and he may like to visit Renkoji Temple sometime during Sept. 6-8, 1995. I added that detailed programme will be communicated to Mr. M. Hayashi as and when finalised.

3. Mr. M. Hayashi, Secretary of the Academy, stated in his speech that members of the Academy were very hopeful that Netaji's ashes will be repatriated with honour to India before his birth centenary falling in 1997. He referred to a letter received by Mr. T. Shimoda, a member of the Academy from one Mr. L. Joychandra Singh, a journalist of Imphal (Manipur, India) who had visited Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, about 4 years ago. He requested Mr. Shimoda to read out the letter. Mr. Shimoda distributed copies of the letter (at Appendix A) to several members of the audience along with a press clipping from 'The Telegraph' dt. Aug. 4, 1995 (at Appendix B) covering our Prime Minister's reply given in Kuala Lumpur to an old freedom fighter "on the question of bringing back the remains of Netaji to India". Mr. Shimoda explained to the audience the differing opinions held in India about the death of Netaji and pointed out Mr. L. Joychandra Singh's proposal that one Russian language knowing

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(173)

person of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, Japan, should accompany Mr. Singh to Moscow to read the documents about the death of Netaji. Mr. Hayashi replied to this proposal on behalf of the members of the Netaji Academy. He asserted that all the members of the Academy believed beyond doubt that Netaji's ashes are kept at Renkoji Temple and anything else is a rumour. He added that in view of this belief Joychandra Singh's proposal made no sense and deserved no consideration.

4. Like previous years, the function was attended by TV and press reporters. The names of two TV reporters who met me are enclosed. While I was coming out of the temple after the function, TV Tokyo reporter asked me two questions in front of the TV camera. One question related to the government of India's position regarding the issue of repatriation of Netaji's ashes to India. I replied that this issue was still under consideration of the government of India and there was nothing new which I could add. The second question related to whether our Foreign Minister is definitely visiting the Renkoji Temple. I replied that the programme of the Foreign Minister's visit is still being finalised and we will come to know of his detailed programme in due course.

5. Though Gaimusho officials have always been invited in the past, they have not been attending this function during the last few years. This year Director, South-West Asia Division, Mr. Yoshihiko Kamo, and Mr. Masaharu Shimizu also of the same Division, visited the temple for about half-an-hour while the memorial service was in progress. They came after the memorial service had started and left before it ended. After the service I came to know of their presence. Later I talked to Mr. Shimizu on phone who said that they wanted to see the condition of the temple in the context of the impending visit of our Foreign Minister. He added that they found the temple in good condition.

6. During my informal talk with members of the Academy I gathered that most of the members are very enthusiastic about continuing the memorial service. Even Rev. Mochizuki is reported to have told members of the Academy that if members of the Academy are not in a position to continue this service due to their old age at any future stage, he would be happy to carry out the service every year. Other members like Mr. Okuda, Managing Director, Saudi Arabia Airlines, Tokyo, Mr. Kawamura who was formerly running a public accounts office expressed that memorial service will never stop.

Submitted for information.

~~Ambassador~~

J. Sahdev

25/8 '2

22.08.95
(Bhushan Jain)
Minister

(174)
L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

Fax. NO.— 0091—385—225544, Prajatantra Imphal
0091—385—222936
0091—385—220471

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8/15 2
Tele — PRAJATANTRA, IMPHAL.

PRAJATANTRA BUILDINGS
IMPHAL, MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal 7 Aug 1995.

Dear Mr. T. Shimoda,

Our Prime Minister is very much willing to bring the "Remains" of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. He expressed his desire at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 3rd August 1995 to Mr. S.G. Gill. The newspaper cutting of it is enclosed herewith.

Mr. Chitta Basu, MP, General Secretary, Forward Bloc who came to me at Imphal twice requested me to confirm the death of Netaji on 18 August 1945 at Taipei from Russia.

My friend in Germany Mr. Elke Wijithapala wrote me a letter that the documents of the death of Netaji has been lying at

USSR, RSFSR
Maly Karetny I2
IO3I5I Moscow
MEMORIAL
Phone - 299II80

I have been trying to visit Moscow for the last 2-3 years, but I can't do so because I cannot go alone there. I want to accompany a person who knows Russian language very fluently.

Would you kindly consider to request to some important member of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Academy, Japan to find out the possibility of visiting there (Moscow) to study War Records connected with Taipei plane crash.

P.T.O.

(175)

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

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0091—385—220471

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221538 [o]
220471 [R]

Tele — PRAJATANTRA, IMPHAL.

PRAJATANTRA BUILDINGS
IMPHAL, MANIPUR, INDIA.

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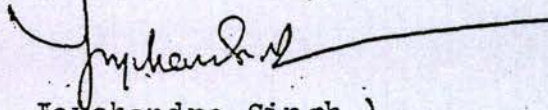
Once we got the confirmation of the death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, I think the forward Bloc which has been objecting bringing of the "Remains" (ashes) of Subash Chandra Bose to India will not object it.

I shall be very grateful, if you kindly consider to discuss this matter with the important members of the Subash Chandra Bose Academy to find out the ways and means for visiting Moscow to study the War Records and locate the documents of the death of Netaji from Russian side.

An early comment or views on this subject will be highly appreciated.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely



(L. Joychandra Singh)

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Following renewed threats by terrorist groups and the recent bomb blasts in Jammu city, the administration has decided to deploy nearly 40,000 jawans drawn from the Army, BSF, CRPF and the J & K Police for the smooth conduct of the Amarnath Yatra, which started on Aug. 1st from Jammu.

Security Forces are already setting up Check Post and Bunkers all along the 49 km track from Pahalgam to the Holy Shrine, situated a height of more than 12,464 ft.

The Army has also formed special 'Crack Teams'. -The devotees will be escorted by army troops.

TELEGRAPH DATED 4 Aug 1995

Rao on Netaji's 'remains'

From TARUN BASU

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 3. — The Prime Minister, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, today told an old freedom fighter here that the "remains" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose could not be brought back to India from Japan because "there is a political party that still thinks that he is alive".

Mr S. G. Gill, a 71-year old Sikh businessman, got up at the end of Mr Rao's lunch with Malaysian businessmen at Hotel Concorde to ask why Bose's "remains" were still in Tokyo and why the Indian Government was not making any efforts towards taking them over half a century after his "death". He said INA patriots and their progenies had been pursuing this demand for a long time.

Mr Rao said he had visited the place in Tokyo where Netaji's "remains" were kept and had spoken to the old couple who were doing a great service to India by preserving them. "But my real difficulty is that there is a political party, the Forward Bloc, which still thinks that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is alive.

"How do you think of the 'remains' of a person who is still supposed to be alive? It is not an easy matter. There is a whole lot of emotional overtones to the issue", Mr Rao said to laughter.

But Mr Rao hoped that there would be a time in the not too distant future when the controversy would end and it would be possible to bring his

"remains" back. Meanwhile, he assured Mr Gill that all necessary steps were being taken for the proper preservation of the "remains".

Mr Gill later said his work as an INA activist in then Malaya was to assemble and conceal radio transmitters and receivers inside musical instruments like the harmonium to keep in contact with INA activists in India.

He said INA activists here ran Azad Hind Schools which was attended by writers like Sarat Chandra Chatterjee. His brother, Amrik Singh Gill, was sentenced to death for subversive activities by the British which was then commuted to life imprisonment.

— India
Abroad News Service.

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INTERNATIONAL DIVISION
NEWS DEPARTMENT

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THE YOMIURI SHIMBUN



TOSHINAO ISHII

STAFF WRITER

FOREIGN NEWS DEPARTMENT



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Mr. Ishii, Foreign News Dept,
Yomiuri Shimbun is at the
reception.

He doesn't have appointment,
but he would like to say
Hello to you.

Queries.

- ① whether SC Bose's ashes are being
sent to India soon?
- ② GOI Report of 1956 on his
Circumstances relating his death?
w/ with MPR

Thi, 17/4

1856

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T-407 TOKYO 24.02.95 18:50

FROM : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

TO : FOREIGN NEW DELHI

SHRI YOGESHWAR VARMA, DIRECTOR(J-K), AP DIVISION
FROM SUNIL JAIN, FS(P AND I)

RPT : SHRI G. MUKHOPADHAYA, DIRECTOR(XP), MEA

OUTGOING TELEX

FOLLOWING IS FREE TRANSLATION OF AN ARTICLE IN TOKYO SHIMBUN
OF 20TH FEBRUARY BY ITS NEW DELHI CORRESPONDENT, SHRI V. GUPTA :INDIA'S HERO CHANDRA BOSE: HIS FAMILY HAS STARTED
THE PROCESS OF TAKING BACK THE ASHES WHICH ARE
IN JAPAN: NEW DELHI BY V.GUPTA

THIS YEAR IS THE 50 YEAR AFTER THE DEATH OF INDIA'S HERO DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE WHO IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE DIED IN AN AIR CRASH IN TAIWAN. HIS FAMILY HAS STARTED THE PROCESS OF TAKING BACK THE ASHES FROM JAPAN. THE ASHES WERE BROUGHT TO JAPAN DURING THE CHAOTIC PERIOD OF THE WAR AND THEY REMAINED HERE SINCE THEN. HIS FAMILY IS SAYING ' '1997 IS BOSE'S 10TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY AND WE WANT TO HAVE THEM BY THAT TIME' '.

THE RETURN IS INITIATED BY A JOURNALIST IN NEW DELHI, MR. ASHISH RAY(42). MR RAY IS THE GRANDSON OF BOSE'S ELDER BROTHER.

INDIA GOT ITS INDEPENDENCE THROUGH THE NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT OF MAHATMA GANDHI, BUT BOSE ALSO WORKED FOR INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE BY PROTESTING AGAINST ENGLAND'S COLONISATION SINCE 1942 AND RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM JAPAN. HE WAS KNOWN IN INDIA BY THE NICK NAME NETAJI, GIVEN TO HIM PEOPLE FOR HIS VALIANT PATRIOTISM, (HIS LIFE AND WORK) IS INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS AS HE HAS A LEGENDARY EXISTENCE. BOSE ESTABLISHED INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY 45 YEARS AGO AND ATTACKED IMPHAL WHICH IS THE INDIAN TERRITORY TODAY ALONGWITH THE JAPANESE ARMY, BUT FAILED. JUST AFTER THE JAPANESE DEFEAT IN THE WAR ON 18TH AUGUST, HE MET WITH AN ACCIDENT WHEN HE HALTED AT JAYPEI AIRPORT WHILE GOING FROM VIETNAM TO DURIEN, CHINA.

AFTER THE ACCIDENT, BOSE WAS CREMATED IN TAIWAN AND THE CONCERNED PEOPLE BROUGHT THE ASHES TO RENKOJI (TEMPLE) IN SUGINAMI-KU, TOKYO. MR. RAY HAS ALREADY VISITED JAPAN IN MAY LAST YEAR AND HAD ASKED (JAPANESE) FOREIGN MINISTRY'S COOPERATION. HE ALSO WENT TO THE TEMPLE AND SAW THE REMAINS. HE IS GOING TO PURSUE THE MATTER POSITIVELY.

HOWEVER, IN INDIA HERE IS A GROUP WHICH DOES NOT ACCEPT THAT BOSE IS DEAD AND THAT THOSE ARE HIS ASHES. AFTER THE WAR, MANY TIMES THE ISSUE OF RETURN OF THE REMAINS CAME UP BUT EVERY TIME IT DIED DOWN BECAUSE OF SUCH PROTEST. THUS, EVEN THIS TIME THE MOVE ON GOVERNMENT LEVEL IS DULL REGARDING THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS.

TWO YEARS LATER, ON 23RD JANUARY, 1997 IS THE BIRTH CENTENARY OF BOSE. MR. RAY IS THINKING OF REALIZING THE RETURN BY THAT TIME. ' 'THE REMAINS ARE CERTAINLY THAT OF BOSE. THE RELATIVES ARE OLD AND I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MOVE AROUND. THIS TIME I CERTAINLY WANT TO REALIZE THE RETURN(OF THE REMAINS), ' ' WERE THE WORDS OF DETERMINED (MR. RAY).

INDEMBASSY TOKYO

COLLS : T-407 TKY/SM 24 19:00 JST

NNNN



सत्यमेव जयते

AMBASSADOR

SECRET

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
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Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

No. TOK/102/2/92

September 27, 1994

Dear Ranjit,

Kindly refer to your letter No. 3379-JS(AP)/94 dated September 16, 1994 regarding Netaji's death.

In response to a query by the Embassy to the Gaimusho, the latter sent a letter dated July 24, 1956 informing that the cremation permit in the name of Mr. Okura is believed to be that of Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose. A copy of Gaimusho's letter dated July 24, 1956, as well as a copy of the death certificate of Mr. Ichiro Okura, is enclosed.

Rugunde.

Yours sincerely,

Prakash

(Prakash Shah)

ofc

Shri R.S. Kalha
Joint Secretary (AP)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

THE GAIMUSHO

July 24, 1956

Dear Mr. Dar,

With reference to your letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of May 30th, 1956, and my letter dated June 14th, 1956, I wish to inform you that the following reply has been received from Mr. K. Horiuchi, Ambassador of Japan at Taipei, to our enquiry made on this matter:

1. "Doctor's Report" and "Police Report" as mentioned in Mr. Dar's letter could not be traced at Taipei in spite of all efforts.
2. As to "Cremation Permit" a certified copy of the original document on cremation permit which is held by the Bureau of Health and Hygiene Taipei Municipal Office, could be obtained. The document mentions the name of ICHIRO OKURA as the deceased and that of TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI as the applicant. Since the death of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose was kept strictly confidential at that time, it is believed that this cremation permit on ICHIRO OKURA must correspond to the case for late Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose.

Therefore, I wish to enclose herewith the above-mentioned copy of "Cremation Permit" together with its translation in English.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Hisaji Hattori

Chief of 4th Section
Asian Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. A.K.Dar,
First Secretary,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

2640

No.	Name of Disease	Date of Death Date of Permission Date of Cremation	Place of Burial & Cremation.	Occupation	Sex	Permanent Domicile Present address.	Name of Deceased	Date of Birth	Applicant Address Name
2641	Heart Attack	Aug.19,1945 Aug.21,1945 Aug.22,1945	0000 Municipal Crematory	Non-regular staff member of Army Forces.	Male	No.1,2-Chome, Ichiro Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ky, Tokyo. No.2,3-chome, Nog1-machi Taipei City	April 9, Unit 1900.	No.21123	Taneyoshi Yoshimi

Examined and authenticated by
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

S E A L.

Sd/- Yasutoru Asahina
Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
(Archives Section).

It is certified that the above statement, abstracted
from the original document on cremation permit,
is correct and true.

July 14, 1956.

Bureau of Health & Hygiene,
Taipei Municipal Office. (Sealed)

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R.S. KALHA,
JOINT SECRETARY (AP)

3379-JS(AP)/94

Ry deen Prakash,

Shri Ashish Ray, CNN Correspondent here, has written to the Foreign Secretary to state that in 1956 Japanese Government investigated and confirmed Netaji's death, following the air crash. He has also stated that this report was handed over to the Government and exists in the files of the Embassy of India in Tokyo. Grateful if you could let us know if such a report exists and if you could send us a copy.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

R.S. Kalha
(R.S. Kalha)

Shri Prakash Shah,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo

unpublished
at Net should have
no paper. Anyway,
pl put up draft
reply - along with
concerned file &
the report.

Ry
21/9

S.S. (P.)

SECRET/MOST IMMEDIATE

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-110011

Sept. 16th, 1994

165

Embassy of India
New Delhi

185

104

Reference Ambassador's remarks.

A Draft is put up please.

Registration
22nd Sept, '94

~~DEPT~~

~~Ambassador~~

Devi
22/9

Pl. give me the concerned
files. - including N.S.O.

~~DEPT~~
P.S.

Ry 2
23/9

Letter issued and a/c
Placed below.

13
27/9

~~DEPT~~

Devi
27/9

A(P)

(35)

(B6)

ASHIS C. RAY

CONFIDENTIAL

10 August, 1994.

H. E. Shri Prakash Shah
Ambassador for India in Japan
TOKYO.

Dear Ambassador,

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a memo I prepared on the subject of Netaji's "ashes". I sent this to Shri Amar Nath Varma, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India. I also attach his reply.

I am about to write to Mr Tanizaki to remind him about the clarification and additional information, if any, I had sought from him. I shall send you a copy of this as well.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature: Ashis C. Ray

Handwritten notes:
B-25/8
DCA
A(P)

Handwritten notes:
DCA
26/2

SLUG WRITER DAY/DATE/TIME REV. BY ON STATUS TIME
NETAJI'S "ASHES" Delhi Mon Jul 25 11:57 Delhi Aug 01 15:33 READY 7:28

PREAMBLE

As is well known, ashes, said to be the mortal remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, have been kept at Tokyo's Renko-ji temple since 1945. These have been preserved with due care and respect by a succession of head priests of the temple. It is most commendable that the Government of India has, over the years, albeit unofficially, assisted this work.

While shouldering an onerous responsibility, the priests in question have never complained about this nor have they ever created any pressure to be relieved of the same. However, the present head priest of the temple, like his predecessor, feels that it is only appropriate that the "ashes" return to India and this is also the unanimous view of remaining Japanese associates of Netaji.

If the "ashes" do indeed belong to Netaji, then, perhaps, every effort should be made to bring them back to India. And with the highest possible honour.

For this to happen, those who disbelieve the story of his death in a plane crash - namely a few members of the Bose family (most of whom think otherwise), the Forward Bloc and some diehard individuals - need to be convinced to the contrary.

And all legal hurdles to transfer of the "ashes" to Indian soil need to be removed.

23 January, 1997 will mark Netaji's birth centenary. It would be a feather in the central government's cap if the "ashes" arrive in India on 23 January, 1996, and are, if desired, taken around the country during the centenary year before being dealt with as the family wishes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The opposition to the plane crash story is not entirely unreasonable. As per this incident, Netaji died in unusual circumstances, there is no photographic record of his dead body. And the "cremation certificate" claimed to relate to the last rites is in the name of a Japanese national, described as a member of the armed forces and whose birth date is different from Netaji's.

Such discrepancy was attempted to be explained away by the Japanese government as reflective of a need to maintain secrecy about Netaji's death. Yet, it was Japan which released to the world the news of the air crash.

The reported accident - on 18 August, 1945 - took place only days after Japan's surrender in World War II. It is understandable that the Japanese were shell shocked by the turn of events and there was utter confusion and a complete lack of co-ordination among them. And it is quite possible that while Tokyo was making public news of Netaji's death, Japanese officials in Taihoku, in the absence of any instruction, thought it prudent to keep the matter confidential.

A CREDIBLE AND DETAILED EXPLANATION FROM JAPANESE AUTHORITIES AS TO WHY THE CREMATION CERTIFICATE WAS NOT IN NETAJI'S NAME IS, THEREFORE, NECESSARY.

Indeed, a comprehensive statement, ideally by the Japanese Prime Minister, to clear the foggy atmosphere of the past 49 years may be most helpful. The Japanese government is likely to oblige. Japanese leaders, in recent times, have made a habit of apologising to Asian countries for treatment meted out to them during Japanese occupation of these nations during World War II. While Japan did not commit any crime against India, the post-war confusion resulting in a lack of a clear cut statement on the Netaji affair has, arguably, contributed to the deadlock over the "ashes".

For 11 years after the purported disaster, Japan made no effort to produce an official report on what happened. This led to unchecked speculation. On the one hand, the plane crash was dismissed - notably by the British - as just the thing Netaji would do to escape the clutches of the Anglo-Americans, and on the other, various theories emerged about his whereabouts.

Besides, pro-Netaji elements were skeptical of Pandit Nehru and his motives. They rejected the findings of the Inquiry Committee headed by Shah Nawaz Khan in 1956. (It would be fair to say that this probe was not conducted in a professional manner.) And also found unacceptable the conclusions of the Khosla Commission - in the 1970s - as they unnecessarily went beyond its brief by making political statements in favour of the Nehru-Gandhis and against Netaji.

However, in 1956, the Japanese government investigated and confirmed Netaji's death following the crash. And handed over this report to the Indian government. THE SAME DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC TILL DATE. Copies of the report exist in files at both the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Embassy in Tokyo. They are marked "TOP SECRET". Yet, no harm could ever have come from publicising this as well as some other documents similarly classified. The skeptics will find it difficult to accuse the Japanese of an ulterior motive or a vested interest. Release of the report and related papers can, therefore, only have a very positive impact in persuading them to reconcile themselves to reality.

It is equally important to obtain from Russian authorities that Netaji never visited the Soviet Union after 18 August, 1945, if this is indeed the case. Opponents of the plane crash story believe that Netaji slipped away to the Soviet Union. It is true that he had planned to do so. But this was cut short by his seemingly premature death.

Moreover, a clarification is required from the British government on its stand until at least the late 1940s that Netaji did not die in the plane crash. (The chances are that Whitehall at some stage altered this view.)

Colonel Habibur Rahman, Netaji's ADC, who survived the crash, told his son, Naeemur, who now lives in Islamabad, that the aircraft failure was caused by SABOTAGE by Chinese technicians (hostile towards the Japanese, not Netaji - several senior Japanese military officers were on the flight) at Taihoku airport - this is new information, never mentioned by the former in his deposition to the Shah Nawaz Committee in 1956 - and that he placed a gold plated tooth belonging to Netaji in the urn containing the ashes when this was handed to him after the cremation in Taihoku - this, too, he had not made public before. A serious endeavour to get to the bottom of the "mystery" could include doing a simple X-ray of the urn. If the tooth is indeed there, the X-ray would be invaluable in terms of determining if the tooth matches with Netaji's dental records. The existence of the tooth would also help to increase Habibur Rahman's credibility, sometimes questioned.

A sincere presentation of the new evidence, is likely to create a favourable public opinion. The principal person in the Bose family still challenging the crash story, Amiya Nath Bose, a nephew of Netaji, needs to be brought around by the Prime Minister himself - there is a good chance that if reasonably approached, he will drop his opposition. It is desirable that agreement regarding bringing the "ashes" is secured from Netaji's wife and daughter, both residing in Augsburg, Germany. This is best done through Dr Sisir Bose, another nephew of Netaji. The Forward Bloc can be tackled by Jyoti Basu, who successfully made it do a volte face on Teen Bigha and can, most probably, do it again.

But no progress can be made unless there is an irreversible judgement from the Supreme Court authorising the return of the "ashes". Government could take the initiative in the matter. There is already a case before the Chief Justice petitioning how Netaji could have been given the Bharat Ratna "posthumously". GOVERNMENT COULD SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMBINE ALL RELATED CASES PENDING IN ANY COURT IN THE COUNTRY, SEEK TIME TO COLLECT ALL "NEW EVIDENCE" OR MOVE THE MATTER SEPARATELY BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT TO DO AWAY WITH LEGAL IMPEDIMENTS ONCE AND FOR ALL.

In fighting the above case, it may be relevant to bear in mind that in September 1978, Morarjee Desai, as Prime Minister, made a statement in the Lok Sabha, effectively rejecting the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and the Khosla Commission.

END



A. N. Varma
Principal Secretary

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प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली-110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI-110 011

August 8, 1994

No. 870/11/P/10/93-Pol

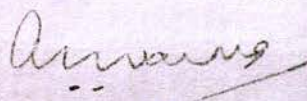
Dear Ashis,

Thank you for your letter of August 1, 1994 about your recent studies pertaining to Netaji.

2. I appreciate the detailed note on the subject of Netaji's ashes you have enclosed with your letter, and the particular facts you have highlighted shall be examined. In the meanwhile, I appreciate the constructive approach to the subject you have outlined, and this shall certainly receive full consideration. We shall pursue the matter and will be in touch.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,


(A.N. Varma)

Shri Ashis C. Ray,
F-162, Malcha Marg,
Chanakyapuri,
NEW DELHI-110021



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Shri Prakash Shah
Ambassador for India
Tokyo
Japan.

Dear Ambassador,

Just to confirm that I am in receipt of the papers so kindly sent by you.

Since our meeting, I have either been travelling on business or vacationing - I was about to forfeit my '93 leave! I returned to work last week.

I am about to write up a report for the persons here who have borne in mind the advice you gave me regarding the concerned matter. I have adopt - this is likely to be reflected in my recommendation.

I have not heard from the Japanese Foreign Ministry yet.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ashis Ray

Ru

*Defn P1 file in
Netaji Subhash Bose files
file 2
18/7*

K(P)



AMBASSADOR

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No. TOK/102/2/92

May 19, 1994

Dear Ashish,

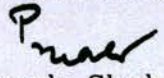
You had requested for certain unclassified papers in regard to the question of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes. I send you an English translation of the death certificate issued in 1945 and given to us by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the name of Ichiro Ikura.

It is indeed possible that since the death of Netaji was at that time kept strictly confidential, the certificate may have been issued in a fictitious name. I also enclose a copy of report of Shri S.A. Ayer on the air crash of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at Taihoku on August 18, 1945.

With reference to your request for xray of the urn containing Netaji's ashes and a letter or certificate from the Government of Japan in regard to the death certificate, you had mentioned that you would have further discussions in Delhi and let me know the position.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Prakash Shah)

Shri Ashish Ray,
South Asia Bureau Chief
Cable News International Inc.
F-162 Malcha Marg
Chanakyapuri
NEW DELHI - 110 021

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No.	Name of Disease	Date of Death Date of Permission Date of Cremation	Place of Burial & Cremation.	Occupation	Sex	Permanent Domicile Present address.	Name of Deceased	Date of Birth	Applicant Address	Applicant Name
2640										
2641	Heart Attack	Aug.19,1945 Aug.21,1945 Aug.22,1945	000 Municipal Crematory	Non-regular staff member of Army Forces.	Male	No.1,2-Chome, Ichiro Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ky, Tokyo. No.2,3-chome, Nogi-machi Taipei City	Lkura	April 9, 1900.	Unit No.21123	Taneyoshi Yoshimi

Examined and authenticated by
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

S E A L.

Sd/- Yasutoru Asahina
Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
(Archives Section).

It is certified that the above statement, abstracted
from the original document on cremation permit,
is correct and true.

July 14, 1956.

Bureau of Health & Hygiene,
Taipei Municipal Office. (Sealed)

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RESUME

OF

SHRI S. A. AYER'S REPORT ON AIRCRASH OF NETAJI
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AT TAIHOKU (FORMOSA) ON
AUGUST 18, 1945.

.....

At 5-15 P.M. on the 17th August, 1945, I and a number of my colleagues saw Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Col. Habib-ur-Rahman off by a bomber leaving Saigon airport for an unknown destination. The Japanese authorities offered me a seat in a plane leaving Saigon for Japan on 20th August and hinted that I could join Netaji very soon. I reached Saigon airport on the morning of the 20th August, 1945, and there accidentally met Mr. Fukuoka, Chief of the Domei News Agency for the East Asia Regions who told me abruptly that he was sorry for Netaji. I merely presumed that Netaji had been held up in Formosa owing to bad weather. A little later just as I was going to board the plane, Rear Admiral Chuda of the Japanese Navy told me that Netaji was dead. I had no chance to ask him for details because in the next few moments I was aboard the plane.

When we reached Canton airport at 5 p.m. and halted for refuelling, Col. Tada, who was escorting me, took me aside and told me for the first time that Netaji's plane crashed near Taihoku (Formosa) on August 18 and that Netaji was seriously injured and succumbed to his injuries the same night, and that Col. Habib-ur-Rahman, who was not so seriously injured, was alive and lying in a hospital in Taihoku. I asked him to take me to Taihoku so that I could see Netaji's body with my own eyes and also be of some service to Habib. I told him that without positive proof nobody in India would believe the story. Though Col. Tada promised to help me, I was not taken to Taihoku.

We reached Tokyo on the 22nd August, 1945 and the Japanese, in consultation with me, drafted a brief communique announcing the death of Netaji. On September 7th, Sri Rama Murthy,

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Murthy, ex-Chairman, Indian Independence League in Japan and I contacted the Japanese Military authorities who told us that the ashes of Netaji brought by Habib from Formosa the previous day would be handed to us for safe custody and that Habib himself would be joining us sometime that evening. I received the ashes at the hands of a senior Japanese military officer at the main entrance to the Imperial Japanese Military Headquarters, and took them to the house of Sri Murthy. The same night Habib arrived in the house of Sri Ananda Mohan Sahay where I was staying. I give below Habib's version of what happened to Netaji after I saw him off at the Saigon airport on the evening of August 17th 1945.

Habib's version begins: "A couple of hours after we took off from Saigon aerodrome on 17th August, we landed at Touraine (Indo-China) and halted there for the night. Early next morning we again took off and landed at the Taihoku airport at about 2 p.m. on the 18th. We took off from there at 2.35 p.m. We had just cleared the runway and gained two or three hundred feet height when there was a sudden deafening noise. I thought it was an enemy fighter. I learnt later that one of the propellers of the port engine had broken. The plane was already wobbling and in spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane crashed on its nose and everything went black for a while. When I recovered consciousness a few seconds after, I realised that all the luggage had crashed on top of me and a fire had started in front of me. So, exit by the rear was blocked by the packages and exit by the front was possible only through the fire. Netaji was injured in the head but had struggled to his feet and was about to move in my direction to get away from the fire. As there was no passage I said to him "Aagese nikliye, Netaji". With both his hands he fought his way through the fire and stood outside about ten or fifteen feet away. When the plane crashed, he got a splash of petrol all

/over

over his cotton khaki and it caught fire when he struggled through the nose of the plane. So he stood there with his clothes burning and making desperate efforts to unbuckle the belts of his bushcoat and round his waist. I dashed up to him and tried to help him remove the belts. Then I noticed that his face was battered by iron and burnt by fire. A few minutes later he collapsed and lay on the ground. I was also exhausted and lay down by his side. The next thing I know I was lying on a hospital bed next to Netaji. I learnt later that within fifteen minutes of the crash, military ambulance had rushed us to hospital in Taihoku city. Netaji lost consciousness almost immediately after reaching the hospital. He regained it soon after. He never complained about the writhing pain that he must have been suffering. Except for brief spells he was conscious throughout. A moment before his end came he said to me "My end is coming very soon. I have fought all my life for my country's freedom. I am dying for my country's freedom. Go and tell my countrymen to continue the fight for India's freedom. India will be free before long." The Japanese made superhuman efforts to save Netaji. But it was all in vain. Six hours after he was brought into the hospital i.e., at 9 p.m. on 18th August, 1945, Netaji's end came peacefully.

"When I felt well enough to talk to them I told the Japanese to arrange to send Netaji's body by plane to Singapore or to Tokyo. They promised they would. They then told me that it was impossible to carry Netaji's remains out of Taihoku and cremation had to be arranged as early as possible. They asked my consent for it. I had no other alternative but to agree. The funeral service with full military honours was held in the shrine attached to the hospital and the cremation took place on the 20th. They placed Netaji's ashes in an urn and kept it in the shrine. Three weeks later I was told that a

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A single ambulance plane was leaving Taihoku and I could get a seat. I took charge of Netaji's ashes and flew by that plane and reached Tokyo on the 6th September 1945. I was taken straight to one of the suburbs for the sake of secrecy and it was only two days later that the Japanese took first the ashes and then me into Tokyo city." Habib's version ends.

On September 14, we took the ashes to the Ronkoji temple in Tokyo where we held a funeral service conducted by the priest of the temple and left the ashes in his safe custody.

I and Habib were flown to Delhi under military escort in an American plane and reached Delhi on November 22, 1945

I paid a brief visit to Japan towards the end of May, 1951. I was in Tokyo from May 24 to June 10. During my stay there I tried to meet as many Japanese nationals as I could, with a view to checking up the truth of the air-crash. First I went to the temple to make sure that the ashes were there as I left them six years ago. The same priest was still there.

The first Japanese I saw after meeting the priest was Mr. Fukuoka whom I had last seen at Saigon airport on the morning of August 20th 1945. I recalled to his mind our conversation that morning and asked him what exactly he knew at that moment, six years ago. He told me that he knew from certain messages that Netaji's plane had crashed in Taihoku and that Netaji had been seriously injured but that he was not aware then that Netaji had succumbed to his injuries. He heard about Netaji's death only some time after my plane took off. He was convinced of the truth of this story because it was corroborated by different Japanese Military officers stationed at that time in Saigon.

I also met Col. Tada, the officer who accompanied me from Saigon to Tokyo in August 1945, and asked him why he failed to take me to Taihoku in spite of his promise to do so. He explained that it was past 10 p.m. when our plane reached Taihoku and it was not considered safe to proceed to Taihoku at that hour

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hour, as the aerodrome there was surrounded by hillocks. They did not wish to touch Taihoku the next day because August 21 was the last day given by the Allies for the Japanese to ground all their planes in Japan and elsewhere. If Netaji had been alive at that time in Taihoku they might have taken the risk of flying to Taihoku. For the rest, he repeated his story of six years before in all essential details and told me it was no use anybody doubting the truth of the plane crash. To provide me with further authentic proof of the tragic event, he mentioned the names of two Japanese officers, Col. Nonogaki of the Japanese Air Force, and Captain Arai of the Japanese Army, as the only two Japanese survivors of the air crash who could be contacted in Tokyo itself. I met Col. Nonogaki for the first time in Tokyo, on the evening of June 5, 1951. He gave me a graphic description of the air crash. In broadline he confirmed Habib's version of six years ago. Through Col. Nonogaki's good offices I saw Captain Arai who gave me a brief eye-witness account of the crash and confirmed Netaji's death in the hospital at 9 p.m. on August 18, 1945.

I must here mention another very important fact in this connection. When I was in Delhi in April 1951, I met Mr. Harin Shah, special representative of the 'Bharat' of Bombay. He had been to Formosa in 1948 on tour. He told me in detail about his inquiries which convinced him that the crash did take place, that Netaji died in Taihoku and his body was cremated. He showed me the photographs he had taken of the Chief of the Japanese Army Hospital where Netaji was treated, the surgeon who actually treated Netaji, the nurses who attended on him, the chief of the medical faculty who sent blood for transfusion to Netaji and the students who gave the blood for transfusion.

In conclusion I would repeat that I have not the faintest doubt in my mind that the ashes that are enshrined in the Ronkoji temple in Tokyo are Netaji's.



SECRET

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Fax: 03(3234)4866

No. TOK/102/2/92

May 19, 1994

Dear Ranjit,

You are perhaps aware of the issue of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes and the long and protracted correspondence over decades in regard to transferring the ashes from Tokyo to India. Our last letter to your predecessor was on June 1, 1993, to which response is still awaited.

Mr. Ashish Ray, a grand nephew of the Netaji, and currently CNN Bureau Chief in Delhi, made a visit to Tokyo last month to pursue the matter in the context of the forthcoming centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

He had a couple of meetings with me. His main purpose was to see if anything could be done to make a decision in Delhi easier in regard to the transfer of the ashes. According to him, the most important thing was to convince some of Netaji's remaining relatives that Netaji had indeed died in the air crash and that the ashes which have been kept in an urn in Tokyo are indeed Netaji's ashes. For this purpose, I briefed him on all the connected issues and expressed my hope that he would be able to convince the relatives of Netaji and perhaps the political leadership in Bengal, about the genuineness of the ashes so that this chapter can be closed once and for all by transferring the ashes to India and providing an honourable place for it.

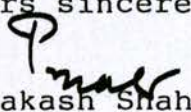
Mr. Ray also visited the temple where the ashes are kept and talked to the temple authorities. The temple authorities' repeated arguments were the same that they had been giving us for transferring the ashes.

According to Mr. Ray, one possible way of establishing the genuineness of the ashes is the report that he had received from the son of Netaji's ADC Rehman that the gold tooth of Netaji was part of the ashes which have been sealed in the urn here. He felt that if it is possible to get the urn xrayed to establish the existence of Netaji's tooth, that would go a long way in convincing his relatives. He also wondered whether it might not be possible for the Japanese Government to issue a statement or letter that would indicate that in their view the death certificate issued in the name of a Japanese by the Taiwanese authorities was indeed the one that related to Netaji. He had a meeting with Mr. Tanizaki, Director in the Gaimusho, where he broached these points.

I told Mr. Ray that as far as we are concerned, we believe that this is indeed Netaji's ashes, on the basis of a lot of evidence that is on our files. We also believe that with the rapidly dwindling crop of Netaji's contemporaries, we would find nobody to preserve and look after the ashes in Japan and that an early decision is necessary from Delhi for the transfer of the ashes to India. I told him that I would be prepared to suitably approach the Japanese Government provided we have some assurance from official circles in Delhi that such a certificate or letter from the Japanese Government would be followed by a decision to get the ashes removed to India. Mr. Ray said that he would pursue this matter with the concerned Ministries when he goes back.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Prakash Shah)

Shri R.S. Kalha
Joint Secretary (AP)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI



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21 April, 1994.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: PRAKASH SHAH, INDIAN AMBASSADOR IN JAPAN

FROM: ASHIS RAY, SOUTH ASIA BUREAU CHIEF, CNN

Thank you for offering 11 am on the 27th instant at the time to see me - this is fine.

However, let me give you a little background before I arrive. Naeemur Rahman, son of Col. Habibur Rahman (who, as you know, was Netaji's ADC and claimed he survived the alleged crash), told me that among the things his father said about the reported accident was:

1. that the crash was as a result of sabotage by Chinese technicians (still hostile towards Japan in the immediate aftermath of war - and there were several senior Japanese military personnel on the same flight) who attended to the aircraft during the stop at Taihoku airport; and
2. that Col. Rahman was given a gold tooth, said to belong to Netaji, by Japanese officials, after the latter's purported death, which he put in the urn containing the "ashes" when it was given to him to be carried from Taihoku to Tokyo - this is the very urn that is preserved by a priest of the Renkoji Temple.

The above appear to be aspects not touched upon by Col. Rahman when he deposed before the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee in 1956. As you are, doubtless, aware, he did not appear before the Khosla Commission.

There is no logical reason for Col. Rahman to lie - and he has always maintained that Netaji died as a result of the crash. It may, therefore, be worthwhile to check if: a) any Japanese record corroborates the suspicion of sabotage; and b) the stated tooth is lying inside the urn.

I would value your opinion and co-operation in this respect. I have also sought the Japanese government's help in the matter and was assured that this would be extended - I have tried to point out the deficiencies in the evidence put out regarding the crash, which have provided fodder to people who continue to resist reality.

Furthermore, I have been in touch with Prof. Nobuko Nagasaki of Tokyo University. And have been offered assistance by a Dr Reijira Toba of Daito-Bunka University (a person recommended by a colleague on The Yomiuri Shimbun).

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I should add that I have asked for a call on the former Japanese Prime Minister, Toshiki Kaifu, who I have met once, albeit very briefly - in Sri Lanka last year. It would be greatly appreciated if you could facilitate this meeting.

I must confess that it is only in recent years that I have devoted any time to trying to get to the bottom of what happened to Netaji. Being based in London, as I was for 15 years prior to taking up my present assignment, didn't help. In the past few weeks, however, I have been fortunate enough to receive encouragement from very senior levels of government here - with even a directive that if the "ashes" in question are really the remains of Netaji, a serious attempt must be made to bring them back before his birth centenary - in 1997.

I am told some secret documents of the Japanese government pertaining to 1945 may be de-classified next year. If any of these throw more light on the air crash affair, this could be helpful.

I tried to phone you on Tuesday, but was informed that you were in Kyoto.

My travel schedule is as follows:

ARRIVAL at 0720 hours on 26 April by US822 from Bangkok

DEPARTURE at 1745 hours on 29 April by CP4 to Vancouver.

And I am booked to stay at the ROPPONGI PRINCE HOTEL.

With best wishes,

Ami



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18 April, 1994.

His Excellency Shri Prakash Shah
Ambassador for India
Embassy of India
Tokyo
Japan.

Dear Shri Shah,

The following page will give you some idea of my professional background.

Allow me to add that I am a grand-nephew of Subhas Chandra Bose (grandson of Sarat Chandra Bose).

I am planning to visit Tokyo between 26 and 29 instant. And I would, if possible, like to obtain a bit more clarification on the plane crash which, allegedly, resulted in Netaji's death, with a view to bringing back the "ashes", now in the hands of a priest at Tokyo's Renkoji Temple.

I should like to emphasise that I have always been, and continue to be, inclined to believe that the accident proved fatal to him.

However, in order to satisfy those who fiercely doubt the story, we need to provide a few explanations. Having studied the subject to the best of my abilities, over a long period of time, I have tried to identify these areas; and have sought the co-operation of the Japanese government in this connection. I discussed this with the Japanese Ambassador here last week, who has kindly arranged for me to meet the Director of the South Asian Department in the Japanese Foreign Office while I am in Tokyo.

I have been fortunate enough to secure some interesting information from Naeemur Rahman, son of Colonel Habibur Rahman, Netaji ADC, who, as you know, survived the reported crash.

I am sure you will agree that if the "ashes" belong to Subhas Chandra Bose, we have a duty to not only bring them back to India, but bring them back with due honour. Your kind assistance in this respect would be greatly appreciated.

Discussed with
Ambassador
Pl. see other
note from SS(P)
and inform Mr. Ray
by fax abt
time of apptmt.
on 27 April.

Sh. Bhowas.
2/4

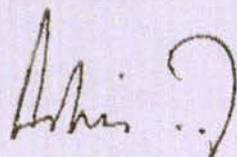
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I would like to give you a ring tomorrow afternoon (your time) to apprise you further on the issue.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



Ashis Ray
South Asia BUreau Chief
C N N



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ASHIS C. RAY
Biography

Ashis Ray is Chief of the CNN New Delhi bureau, responsible for coverage of India and South Asia. He joined CNN in March 1992 to create the New Delhi bureau.

Ray comes to CNN after working in London and the Indian subcontinent for three years as South Asia Correspondent of Independent Television News (ITN), the news and current affairs wing of Britain's ITV and Channel Four. Prior to that he was a presenter for the BBC's World Service and a commentator on BBC's domestic radio and television. In recent years, he has covered major events like the cyclone in Bangladesh in 1991, Rajiv Gandhi's assassination, communal violence in Kashmir, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and general elections in India and Pakistan. Previously, he reported on bilateral and multi-lateral meetings of heads of government at London, Paris, Washington and Ha Noi. Ray is also internationally recognised as a leading cricket commentator having broadcast extensively on test matches and World Cup competitions for the BBC and Australian networks.

In 1982, the Commonwealth Institute Picked him as one of ten prominent Indians living in the United Kingdom "for his contribution to British society". He is a Lecturer at the London School of Economics (LSE) on South Asian matters.

Ray studied at St Paul's School, Darjeeling and St Xavier's College, Calcutta. Born in Vienna, Austria, he speaks, in addition to English, Bengali, Hindustani and Nepali. He is married and has two children.

²⁹
Embassy of India
Tokyo

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Mr. Numahata of the South West Asia
Division, Gaimusho called me to convey
that Mr. Ashish Ray, CWN New Delhi Bureau
Chief would be stopping over Tokyo, next week,
on his way to the U.S. According to
Mr. Numahata, Mr. Ray is the great grandson of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. As such, Amb. Yamada
received Mr. Ray in Delhi recently.

Mr. Ray, during his brief stay in Tokyo,
would like to call on Amb. Shah (preferably
→ || in the forenoon session of 27th/28th April) and
also would be visiting the Kenkōji Temple

Submitted for kind perusal.

Rejinsuwan
20/4

Discussed with Amb. (C RASASEKHAR)
Pl. give him sometime
on 27th morning.
Also inform Mr. Ashish Ray
by fax in Delhi

~~DEPT~~/ Amb.

Sh. Misra

21/4

**Fax Transmission Message**

Embassy of India
2-2-11, Kudan Minami,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.
Fax No.3234 4866

Date: 21.4.1994

Message No.

From : P.C. Biswas, Secretary to Ambassador

To: Shri Ashis Ray, South Asia Bureau Chief, CNN

Fax No. 301 7063

Reference your fax message dated April 18 addressed to Shri Prakash Shah, Ambassador of India in Tokyo. Your call on Ambassador has been fixed at 1100 hrs. on Wednesday, April 27, 1994. Kindly confirm if it is OK with you. Regards.

IN THE COURSE OF THE VISIT, HE WILL CALL ON OUR PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

NEW DELHI
DECEMBER 31, 1993. ITEM

SECTION TWO

INDIA AND PAKISTAN WILL RESUME FOREIGN SECRETARY LEVEL TALKS IN ISLAMABAD ON JANUARY 1, 1994 AFTER SIXTEEN MONTHS STOP THIS WILL BE SEVENTH ROUND OF FOREIGN SECRETARY LEVEL TALKS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES SINCE JULY 1990 STOP FOREIGN SECRETARY, JJ NN DIXIT WILL LEAD INDIAN SIDE IN THREE DAY PARLEY WHILE HIS PAKISTAN COUNTERPART, SHAHRYAR KHAN WILL HEAD PARTICIPANTS OF HIS COUNTRY STOP ITEM

2. RICH TRIBUTES WERE PAID TO NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ON OCCASION OF RELEASING OF A SPECIAL STAMP TO COMMEMORATE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY AT A FUNCTION AT RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN ON DECEMBER THIRTYFIRST STOP ITEM

3. FORMER KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER, SSS BANGARAPPA HAS LAUNCHED A NEW REGIONAL PARTY STOP ANNOUNCING THIS AT BANGALORE ON DECEMBER THIRTYFIRST BANGARAPPA WHO HAS RECENTLY EXPELLED FROM CONGRESS III PARTY, SAID THAT NEW PARTY HAS BEEN NAMED AS KARNATAKA CONGRESS STOP ITEM

4. ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER, HITESHWAR SAIKIA HAS SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE ALL-OUT EFFORTS TO BRING ULFA FACTION WHICH REFUSES TALKS AND BODO MILITANTS TO NEGOTIATING TABLE STOP ADDRESSING A PRESS CONFERENCE AT GUWAHATI ON EVE OF NEW YEARS DAY ON DECEMBER THIRTYONE, SAIKIA SAID, INITIAL PROCESS FOR SUCH NEGOTIATIONS IS ALREADY ON STOP HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT INSURGENCY PROBLEM IN STATE WILL BE SOLVED IN NEW YEAR STOP ITEM

5. EIGHT COMMODITIES INCLUDING RAW CINEMA FILMS, SODA ASH AND CARBON BLACK HAVE BEEN TAKEN OFF LIST OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES BY GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 STOP

A NOTIFICATION ISSUED BY MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SAYS DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN VIEW OF CHANGED SCENARIO IN PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY OF THESE COMMODITIES STOP OTHER ITEMS TAKEN OFF FROM LIST ARE PRESS-MUD, POLYETHYLENE AND POLYSTYRENE MOULDING POWDER, ORGANIC AND INORGANIC HEAVY CHEMICALS STOP ITEM

6. VISHWANATHAN ANAND AND BRITISH GRANDMASTER MICHAEL ADAMS HAVE JOINTLY WON PROFESSIONAL CHESS ASSOCIATION QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT AT GROUWINGEN, NETHERLANDS TO SHARE PRIZE MONEY OF 7000 US DOLLARS STOP ITEM

(186)

(83)

Subhash
Chandra Bose
file

(27)

(208)

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Extracts from Waseda Journal of Asian Studies (82) (26) Vol. 15 - 1993 (Oct) (1456)

When the Burma-Thailand Railway was completed, a variety of people travelled along its length. In 1944, many Japanese soldiers were sent to Burma along the railway for one of the most reckless operations in Southeast Asia, the Impal Campaign to invade India. Not only Japanese soldiers but also Indian soldiers from the Indian National Army boarded with the hope of freeing India from British colonialism.

Subhas Chandra Bose, who founded the Provisional Government of Free India in October 1943, also travelled by this line as the supreme commander of the Indian National Army. The INA was organized at the end of

100

from Feb

by Nakahara
Michiko

Heading
"Asian Labourers along the
Burma-Thailand Railroad"

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1941 from among the Indian POWs of the British Indian Army, and Bose became the leader in 1943. Afterwards many Indians in Malaya, Singapore and other Southeast Asian countries joined up. After the Provisional Government was founded, the INA expanded to 50,000 soldiers, with 20,000 Indian POWs and 30,000 recruited from among Tamil laborers.³⁶ In a recent article on the Indian National Army, Prof. Nagasaki Nobuko wrote that the English insisted that the Japanese forced the reluctant Indians to join by threatening them with flogging, but she was later amazed when she saw the huge number of applications for the INA preserved in the National Archives in Delhi.³⁷

When Bose arrived in Singapore in May 1942, he became the president of the Indian Independence League. "Mass meetings were held in Singapore at Ferrer Park, sometimes with as many as 30,000 people attending. The meetings were addressed by Mr. Bose, Mr. Pritam Singh and Lieutenant Kunizuka ... Most of the League members were Hindus. Many Muslim Indians refused to join. Mr. Anwari, in fact, opposed the League".³⁸ Ba Maw recalled Chandra Bose as a unforgettable man.

Sinozaki also remembered the day when General Tojo, the Japanese Premier, visited Singapore to inspect the Indian National Army. "A parade was held on the Padang. General Tojo and his A.D.C. were on the balcony of City Hall with Mr. Subbas Bose, Colonel Iwakuro and a group of senior officers of the INA. The troops carried British weapons; the light tanks and guntractors were Japanese. Mighty shouts of 'On to Delhi! Azad Hind!'" filled the air. Every Indian that day in Syonan was wildly excited. I am sure they would that day have all been prepared to die for India. There were Indian flags every where".³⁹

Many Indians laborers who were working along the railway remembered the day they saw Bose travelling along the railway. When he travelled, the Indian laborers were ordered to stay in their huts, and some in other camps were hidden in distant jungles. Bose did not see the hundreds

³⁶ Cheah Boon Kheng, *Red Star Over Malaya*, Singapore University Press, 1983, p. 48.

³⁷ 長崎暢子, 「東南アジアとインド国民軍 —ディースオラ・ナショナリズムの崩壊」 「近代日本と植民地」 5 所収, 岩波書店, 1993, p. 169.

³⁸ Mamoru Shinozaki, *Syonan-My Story*, Times Books International, 1953, p. 63.

³⁹ Shinozaki, pp. 64-65.

of thousands forced Indian laborers along the railway. But the Indian laborers were watching him through thick trees in the jungles or through holes in the walls of their huts – voiceless, with mixed feelings.

The Indian laborers saw Bose, in full military uniform with a long saber hanging from his waist, standing on the platform of the station. He was surrounded by several Japanese officers. The laborers saw him in various stations along the railway, such as Bangpong, Takanun, Simbon, Puran-gasi and Hindat. In those days, Bose's picture hung on the walls in many Indian homes in Malaya and Singapore. Many people sang the songs of independence of India. Many of them had heard Bose's passionate speeches calling for a challenge to British imperialism with indomitable resolve, and even his declaration of war against Britain for the Independence of India. Some of the Indian laborers who were forced to hide in the distant jungles shouted "Free India!" at him at the top of their voices. Bose seemed a different person to the people who were toiling in endless desparation and pain. Sabapathy explained:⁴⁰

Subhas Chandra Bose? I thought I would beat him if I had an opportunity. He was wearing a military uniform with a long sword hanging from his waist. One day the Japanese soldiers ordered Tamil laborers to stay in their huts. If anyone stepped out from the hut, he would be killed. Bose was surrounded by the Japanese officers. I think he told them how to deal with the Tamil laborers. He told the Japanese that "if you beat one Tamil, all Tamils will be shaken with fear and obey."

It was a quite unnatural for Bose not to see a single Indian laborers along the railway. Some Indian laborers were ordered by the Japanese officers to prepare tea or special foods. They were removed from the area after the preparation was complete. The Japanese officers dispatched several kanganis and mandors as the "representatives" of the Indian laborers. They answered Bose's questions about their work, living conditions, food, and so on. In front of all the Japanese officers they answered that there were no problems, that the working and living conditions were all proper. One of them said later, "I should have told the truth, that the Indians were suffering and dying. I should have appealed to Bose about our conditions, but I couldn't do it in front of all those Japanese officers. I couldn't."⁴¹

⁴⁰ Interview, Sabapathy s/o Arumugam, Batu Cave, Aug. 2, 1991.

⁴¹ Interview, Govindasamy s/o Ramasamy, Bukit Nanas, Seremban, Aug. 16, 1991.

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For info
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22/10

~~Ambassador~~
~~Secy~~
MCC
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A/P

T-422 TOKYO 22.10.93 12:25

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INDEMB J29727

MOST IMMEDIATE

MSG 18 DATED 22.10.93

FROM: HICOMIND, SINGAPORE
TO: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI
FOR JS (COORD)

REFERENCE YOUR TELEX NO. A-555 OF 14TH OCTOBER 1993 REGARDING
CELEBRATION OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF AZAD HIND DAY (.)

A FUNCTION WAS ORGANISED TODAY THE 21ST OCTOBER TO MARK THE
GOLDEN JUBILEE, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY RESIDENT INDIANS AND PERSONS OF
INDIAN ORIGIN (.) HIGH COMMISSIONER B.M.C. NAYAR ADDRESSED THE
GATHERING OUTLINING THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA
BOSE TOWARDS INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE (.) THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY TWO
SPEECHES (I) BY MR R JUMABHOY, A NONAGENARIAN PROMINENT MEMBER OF
THE INDIAN COMMUNITY, ON HIS IMPRESSIONS OF NETAJI AND (II) BY JOHN
JACOB, FORMERLY LIEUTENANT IN THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY, ON THE IDEALS
THAT NETAJI STOOD FOR (.) BOTH OF THEM WERE PRESENTED WITH BOUQUETS
AND THEIR PRESENCE AND ADDRESSES DESPITE THEIR ADVANCED AGE, WERE
GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED (.) THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY SIMPLE REFRESHMENTS

INDEMB J29727
HARAT RS25526

COLLS : T-422 TKY/SM 22 12:25 JST

fax - 16

(24)

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FROM : FOREIGN NEW DELHI
TO : INDEMBASSY VIENNA
REPT. : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

213

D-1/9

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AZAD HIND
TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER'S BROADCAST

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's message to the Nation tonight on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the founding of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on October 21, 1943:

"Fellow Countrymen,

Namaskar!

Exactly fifty years ago tomorrow the Interim Government of Azad Hind was formed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Singapore. We are celebrating the golden jubilee of the establishment of Interim Government. The formation of this Government in exile was the culmination of the efforts of Netaji to mobilise all Indians outside India in those days to organise them to wage a war against the British Government to gain victory and then go on to form the permanent national government of India.

The Provisional Government of Azad Hind received spontaneous and overwhelming response and support from Indians all over the world. Thousands of people joined the Indian National Army and then Netaji declared that the immediate goal of the new government was winning independence.

24/10
MCC
24/11
A(L)

Netaji's vision of India after independence was that of a democratic and secular country in which every citizen had equal rights, in which there could be no discrimination of any kind, in which there would be complete religious liberty to the citizens. In fact, what all has been actually done in India after Independence and particularly after the promulgation of our Constitution was exactly what Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had wanted and the same thing is happening and in a way what he dreamed has come true.

A day after the proclamation of the Provisional Government, Netaji formed the Rani Jhansi Regiment of women soldiers. You may recall that the Rani Jhansi Regiment had become very famous, almost famous overnight, because it was the first time that people saw that in large numbers women of India were participating in the freedom struggle on the basis of forming a part of the Army. The idea was that along with men, women should march hand in hand and also get the kind of self-confidence that is needed for performing the duties, the arduous duties of soldiers in the army. It is not surprising that so many responded to his call for giving their blood for the independence of their motherland, so many men and women.

Two days after the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, the Provisional Government declared a war of independence against the greatest imperialist power of the day, namely the British Empire. 16,000 soldiers lost their lives. It was perhaps a massive number of persons who voluntarily laid down their lives and a great sacrifice on the part of these people. Netaji and his

- 3 -

heroic INA rekindled the national self-respect and self-confidence of every Indian. The charismatic leadership of Netaji showed that Indian men and women could challenge any power in the world and were inferior to none.

Netaji was a democrat at heart who always put the nation's interest above all else. He saw his Provisional Government as a force working in tandem with all patriotic forces in the country. He spoke very highly of Mahatma Gandhi because he respected him very much. He sought Mahatma Gandhi's blessings for the success of the Azad Hind Fauj and the Interim Government. Although their ways were different and in those days every one knew that their opinions on the method of carrying out the struggle differed, yet the personal relationship of affection between the two was something remarkable. Netaji called Mahatma Gandhi the Father of the Nation.

So, the Interim Government really represented the aspirations of all people of India whether inside or outside and that is why it has become immortal, it has been etched in the minds of people of India ever since. Mahatma Gandhi also had great affection and regard for Netaji. So, this relationship is something one should take note of as between persons holding very different views on a particular subject and yet trying to help each other or expressing regard for each other so that the personal relationship is not affected.

We have attained Independence. We have fashioned a Constitution which is very very much like what Netaji wanted it to be. Now it is for us to protect this freedom to make Netaji's dreams

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P-4/4

- 4 -

come true in every sense of the term. Netaji said many inspiring things. He was a great patriot who inspired millions of people literally millions of youngmen in those days and it is that inspiration that is continuing today in many who read about him and know about him. It is our duty now to follow in his footsteps to do what he really wanted done in independent India.

Jai Hind!"

G.K. SHARMA
(G.K. SHARMA)
UNDER SECRETARY (PARL. & COORD.)
21/10/70

More about Subhas Chandra Bose

To amplify K.V. Narain's letter (Oct. 3):

Early in October 1945, I was sent to Taiwan as a correspondent for United Press Association to investigate the apparent death there in an air crash of Subhas Chandra Bose. I flew in from Shanghai, where the American Air Force was supplying the military mission which had "liberated" Taiwan in August. This group consisted of two U.S. Navy lieutenants who had been coastwatchers in South China during the war years.

They took me to Imperial Army Headquarters where I explained my mission. A Japanese major told me the story of Bose's death. In August 1945, he was flying into Taiwan en route to Tokyo in a Japanese Army twin-engined bomber which had been converted to carry passengers.

On landing, the aircraft struck an American bomb crater and ground looped, striking its nose with considerable force on the ground. Most of the Indian passengers were injured, Bose seriously. Apparently he struck his head on the back of the seat in front of him and may have broken his neck. He was taken out of the aircraft to a Japanese Army hospital, where he died, and was cremated in the Taihoku crematory.

I interviewed the priest who had supervised the cremation and he showed me a wooden box, which he said contained the ashes of Subhas Chandra Bose. They were being held pending instructions from Tokyo as to where they should be delivered.

The Japanese major also took me through the aircraft. It was still on the runway, still nosed over, but otherwise intact. There was still a newspaper lying against the bulkhead beside the seat Bose had occupied.

Although nearly two months had passed, it seemed as though the accident could have occurred the day before.

I do not know what happened to Bose's ashes. The Chinese Army came in from Indochina a few weeks later to occupy, and began looting the island. If the crematory still exists, the ashes may be there yet, awaiting instructions from Tokyo.

I wrote the story when I returned to Shanghai. It was put on the wire and probably appeared in some Tokyo newspapers in October 1945.

EDWIN P. HOYT

Tokyo

T-411 TOKYO 21.10.93 18:51

MOST IMMEDIATE

OUTGOING TELEX

FROM: INDEMBASSY TOKYO

TO: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

JS (COORD) FROM FS (P AND I)

REPTD: JS (XP)

REPTD: JS (AP)

REFYRTLX A-556 OF 14/10 REGARDING CELEBRATION OF GOLDEN JUBILEE OF AZAD HIND DAY ON 21/10/93.

A FUNCTION TO CELEBRATE THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE FORMATION OF THE AZAD HIND PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AT SINGAPORE BY NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE WAS ORGANISED BY THE INDIAN EMBASSY TOKYO ON OCTOBER 21 AFTERNOON. AROUND ONE HUNDRED INDIAN NATIONAL /PERSONS OF INDIAN ORIGIN PARTICIPATED. ABOUT TWELVE JAPANESE NATIONALS WHO WERE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF AZAD HIND FAUJ DURING WORLD WAR TWO WERE ALSO PRESENT. ADDRESSING THE GATHERING AMBASSADOR PRAKASH SHAH RECALLED THE IMPORTANCE OF NETAJI'S ROLE IN INDIA'S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM. IN THIS RESPECT HE MADE A SPECIAL MENTION OF THE SACRIFICES MADE BY THE MEMBERS OF THE AZAD HIND FAUJ WHO WERE INSPIRED BY NETAJI'S CHRISMATIC LEADERSHIP. HE ALSO QUOTED FROM PRIME MINISTER NARSIMHA RAO'S MESSAGE BROADCAST ON OCTOBER 20 NIGHT, WHEREIN HE DESCRIBED NETAJI AS A TRUE DEMOCRAT WHO PUT THE NATION'S INTEREST ABOVE ALL ELSE. MR. MASAO HAYASHI SECRETARY OF THE NETAJI SUBHASH BOSE ACADEMY RELATED HIS EXPERIENCES OF WORKING IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE AZAD HIND FAUJ DURING THE WAR. HE AND HIS OTHER ASSOCIATES THEN RECITED A COUPLE OF MARTIAL SONGS IN HINDOSTANI WHICH THEY LEARNT DURING THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH AZAD HIND FAUJ. INDIAN LADIES SANG RABINDRA SANGEET AND THE FUNCTION ENDED WITH THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

INDEMBASSY TOKYO

COLLS: T-411 TKY/MM 21 19:00 JST

This is in M/C's office who organised the celebration.

Al(Pol)

OCT 21 '93 14:21

277 P01

CRASH

CRASH

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F A X

Ministry of External Affairs
External Publicity Division

* * *

FROM : INDINFO NEW DELHI .
TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO .
DCM FROM DS (XP) .

KINDLY REF YR FAX DTD 18.10.1993 ADDRESSED TO JS (COORD)
WHICH I HAVE SEEN JUST NOW (.) IT MAY PERHAPS BE ALREADY A BIT
LATE IN THE DAY, BUT I AM FAXING HEREWITH BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON
THE FORMATION OF PROVISIONAL GOVT. IN SINGAPORE BY NETAJI SUBASH
CHANDRA BOSE IN 1943 (.)

REGARDS (.)

(Krishan Kumar)
DS (XP)
21.10.1993.

No. 777/DES/DSXP/93.

* * * * *

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FS(P) 21/10
A(P)

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Relevant Extracts from the Book — "A
BEACON ACROSS ASIA : A Biography of Subhas Chandra
Bose"

To Delhi ! To Delhi ! 1943-1945

Accompanied by Rash Behari Bose, Netaji landed in Singapore on 27 June 1943 and began a continuous, tireless and trail-blazing campaign for organising and consolidating the Indian Independence Movement.

A week later, on 4 July, they attended a general assembly of the Indian Independence League held at a theatre in Singapore. The meeting opened with a chorus of the Indian national anthem attended by 2,000 delegates representing Indian revolutionaries from all over Greater East Asia. Then a bevy of seven young girls, beaming with pleasure, emerged on the platform and presented the two Boses with bouquets of flowers amid the thunderous applause of the enthusiastic audience. An Indian songstress, Miss Saraswati, rose and sang a newly composed impassioned song 'Subhasji ! Subhasji !' Presently Rash Behari Bose rose and reached the podium. The aged, ailing leader announced his resignation as President, marking the beginning of a new era in the history of the Indian Independence League and recommended Subhas Chandra Bose as his successor. The whole audience stood up and seconded the proposal with cheers and an ovation.

The new President of the League addressed the audience, and declared, *inter alia* :

Friends ! The time has now come for freedom-loving Indians to act. Action in a war-crisis demands, above all, military discipline as well as unflinching loyalty to the cause. I therefore call upon all my countrymen in East Asia to line up in one solid phalanx under one leadership and prepare for the grim fight that is ahead of us.....

.....In the history of India's struggle, August 1942 will therefore remain an unforgettable landmark, indicating the psychological transition from passive to active resistance.....

The time has therefore come to pass on to the next phase

(21)

Biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

of our campaign.....The aim and purpose of this organisation would be to take up arms against British Imperialism.

In order to mobilise all our forces effectively, I intend organising a Provisional Government of Free India. It will be the task of this Provisional Government to lead the Indian Revolution to a successful conclusion...when the revolution succeeds and Anglo-American Imperialism is expelled from India, the task of the Provisional Government will be over. It will then make room for a permanent Government to be set up inside India in accordance with the will of the Indian people.

Netaji also made the following remarkable point :

By shedding our blood in a sacred cause, we shall be paying the price of liberty and, at the same time, we shall be laying the only enduring foundation for our national unity. And last but not the least, by winning freedom through our own efforts and sacrifice we shall be acquiring the strength whereby we shall preserve our liberty for all time.

He concluded his speech by enunciating :

....We have a grim fight ahead of us — for the enemy is powerful, unscrupulous and ruthless. In the final march to freedom — you will have to face hunger, thirst, privation, forced marches and death. Only when you pass this test, will freedom be yours. I am confident that you will do so and thereby bring freedom and prosperity to your enslaved and impoverished land.⁴

The audience was captivated by Netaji's fighting speech, brimming with passion and sincerity.

After the general assembly was over, Netaji and Rishi Behari Bose paid a courtesy call to General Count Juichi Terauchi,

⁴ Giani, pp. 15-19.

(22)

To Delhi! To Delhi! 1943-1945

Commander-in-Chief, Supreme Command of Japanese Armies in the South, at his headquarters in Singapore. Terauchi was in good humour, notwithstanding adversities on the war fronts under his command, when he received the two Indian leaders. The aristocratic general, who had also studied in Germany after graduation from the Japanese War College, conversed with Netaji in German. It was evident that Terauchi came to like Netaji at once. Terauchi's friendly feelings towards Netaji continued unchanged until his death from illness shortly after the Japanese surrender. This is important to note, because Terauchi was widely recognised as a man of calibre. One time War Minister and potential candidate for the Prime Minister's post, Terauchi was one of the few exceptional generals who could talk to Tojo on an equal footing.

Next day Netaji took over the command of the Indian National Army and reviewed 13,000 officers and men who lined up under the scorching tropical sun at the city square. In a stirring and historic speech delivered on the occasion, Bose adequately expressed his philosophy. Because this speech seems to hold answers to questions which are bound to arise with regard to later developments, the full text is quoted below :

Soldiers of India's Army of Liberation! Today is the proudest day of my life. Today it has pleased Providence to give me the unique privilege and honour of announcing to the whole world that India's army of liberation has come into being. This army has now been drawn up in military formation on the battlefield of Singapore - which was once the bulwark of the British empire. This is not only the army that will emancipate India from the British yoke, it is also the army that will, hereafter, create the future national army of Free India. Every Indian must feel proud that this army - his own army - has been organised entirely under Indian leadership and that when the historic moment arrives, under Indian leadership it will go to battle.

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Biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

There are people who thought at one time that the empire on which the sun did not set, was an everlasting empire. No such thought ever troubled me. History had taught me that every empire has its inevitable decline and collapse. Moreover, I had seen with my own eyes, cities and fortresses that were once the bulwarks, but which became the graveyards, of bygone empires. But standing today on the graveyard of the British empire, even a child is convinced that the almighty British empire is already a thing of the past.

When France declared war on Germany in 1939 and the campaign began, there was but one cry which rose from the lips of German soldiers — 'To Paris, To Paris!' When the brave soldiers of Nippon set out on their march in December 1941, there was but one cry which rose from their lips — 'To Singapore, To Singapore!' Comrades! My soldiers! Let your battle-cry be — 'To Delhi, To Delhi!' How many of us will individually survive this war of freedom, I do not know. But I do know this, that we shall ultimately win and our task will not end until our surviving heroes hold the victory-parade on another graveyard of the British empire — the Lal Kila or Red Fortress of ancient Delhi.

Throughout my public career, I have always felt that though India is otherwise ripe for independence in every way, she has lacked one thing — namely, an army of liberation. George Washington of America could fight and win freedom because he had his army. Garibaldi could liberate Italy, because he had his armed volunteers behind him. It is your privilege and honour to be the first to come forward and organise India's National Army. By doing so, you have removed the last obstacle in our path to freedom. Be happy and proud that you are the pioneers — the vanguard — in such a noble cause.

Let me remind you that you have a two-fold task to perform. With the force of arms and at the cost of your blood you will have to win liberty. Then, when India is free, you

will have to organise the permanent army of Free India, whose task it will be to preserve our liberty for all time. We must build up our national defence on such an unshakable foundation that never again in our history shall we lose our freedom.

As soldiers, you will always have to cherish and live up to the three ideals of faithfulness, duty and sacrifice. Soldiers who always remain faithful to their nation, who perform their duty under all circumstances and who are always prepared to sacrifice their lives, are invincible. If you, too, want to be invincible, engrave these three ideals in the inmost core of your hearts.

A true soldier needs both military and spiritual training. You must — all of you — so train yourselves and your comrades that every soldier will have unbounded confidence in himself, will be conscious of being immensely superior to the enemy, will be fearless of death, and will have sufficient initiative to act on his own in any critical situation, should the need arise. During the course of the present war, you have seen with your own eyes what wonders, scientific training, coupled with courage, fearlessness and dynamism, can achieve. Learn all that you can from this example and build up for Mother India an absolutely first-class modern army.

To those of you who are officers, I should like to say that your responsibility is a heavy one. Though the responsibility of an officer in every army in this world is indeed great, it is far greater in your case. Because of our political enslavement, we have no tradition like that of Mukden, Port Arthur or Sedan to inspire us. We have to unlearn some of the things that the British taught us and we have to learn much that they did not teach. Nevertheless, I am confident that you will rise to the occasion and fulfill the task that your countrymen have thrown on your brave shoulders. Remember always that officers can make or unmake an army. Remember, too, that the British have suffered defeats on so many fronts, largely because of worthless officers. And remember also that out of

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Biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

your ranks will be born the future General Staff of the Army of Free India.

To all of you I should like to say that in the course of this war, you will have to acquire the experience and achieve the success which alone can build up a national tradition for our army in future. An army that has no tradition of courage, fearlessness and invincibility, cannot hold its own in a struggle with a powerful enemy.

Comrades ! You have voluntarily accepted a mission that is the noblest that the human mind can conceive of. For the fulfilment of such a mission, no sacrifice is too great — not even the sacrifice of one's life. You are today the custodians of India's national honour and the embodiment of India's hopes and aspirations. So conduct yourself that your countrymen may bless you and posterity may be proud of you.

I have said that today is the proudest day of my life. For an enslaved people, there can be no greater pride, no higher honour, than to be the first soldier in the army of liberation. But this honour carries with it a corresponding responsibility and I am deeply conscious of it. I assure you that I shall be with you in darkness and in sunshine, in sorrow and in joy, in suffering and in victory. For the present, I can offer you nothing except hunger, thirst, privation, forced marches and death. But if you follow me in life and in death — as I am confident you will — I shall lead you to victory and freedom. It does not matter who among us will live to see India free. It is enough that India shall be free and that we shall give our all to make her free. May God now bless our army and grant us victory in the coming fight ! !

Inquilab Zindabad ! Azad Hind Zindabad !

8/13

The Provisional Government of Azad Hind

By October 21, 1943, the freedom movement of the Indians in East Asia had reached the highest point of enthusiasm. There was a well-organised and disciplined army in the I.N.A. and the League provided a system and a machinery. There was the dynamic leadership of Bose, under whom the three million Indians in East Asia, were united and were ready to

THE WAR OF LIBERATION

undergo any trials in order to liberate their motherland.²⁵⁵ Now there was the necessity of the establishment of a Government without which it was not possible to get international recognition for the activities of the I.N.A. Without a Government Bose could not have declared the war of Independence, nor could he have led the army to battle as an equal partner of the Japanese Government.²⁵⁶ The unmistakable significance of the Provisional Government of Free India was clear to Bose and the idea of forming such a Government on the lines of the numerous emigre European Governments then functioning from London had already taken deep roots in Bose's mind. He had given expression to this idea in his address to the Indian Independence League conference in Singapore on July 4, 1943.²⁵⁷

On October 21, 1943 about 1,000 Indian representatives from different parts of East Asia assembled in Singapore to consider the proposal of Bose and "the Provisional Government of Free India was planned and established according to the free will of the Indian people to emancipate themselves from British Rule."²⁵⁸ In establishing the Provisional Government, besides meeting the exigencies of the Indian situation, Bose followed the course of History.²⁵⁹ The Irish people had set up a Provisional government in 1916 to fight against the British. During the First World War the Czechs had followed the same course and after the War the Turks had formed their Provisional Government, under the leadership of Mustapha Kemal in Anatolia.

Bose's concept of the Provisional Government of Free India was different from the normal peace time Governments. It was to be a fighting organisation with its main object being to launch and to conduct the war against the British and their allies in India.²⁶⁰

"Netaji's most extraordinary move was the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. It was a master move in the game of international politics. The original Indian Independence League could not freely declare war on their enemies and could not cooperate on equal terms with the League of East Asiatic Nations. It was Netaji who foresaw the necessity of equality and thus

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SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

he declared the inauguration of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. The officers and workers remained the same but this switch-over carried us overnight to the status of a free state and since then the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was recognized by nine Sovereign states as an equal partner in the comity of those nations. We were a refugee Government but our privileges and status was no less than that of any of the Sovereign states there."²⁶¹

After he read out the Proclamation, the solemn ceremony of Oath-taking followed. Bose was the first to take the Oath:

"In the name of God, I take this sacred Oath that to liberate India and 38 crores of countrymen, I, Subhas Chandra Bose, will continue this sacred war of freedom till the last breath of my life..."

At this point he became visibly moved. He paused for a while with tears in his eyes and then continued again:

"I shall always remain a servant of India and look after the welfare of 38 crores of Indian brothers and sisters. This shall be for me my highest duty. Even after winning freedom, I will always be prepared to shed the last drop of my blood for the preservation of India's freedom."²⁶²

The Japanese Government's official recognition to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was given two days later on 23 October.

On the same day the Cabinet of the Provisional Government decided to declare war on Britain and the U.S.A.²⁶³ The Declaration was broadcast over the League Headquarters' Radio, by Bose on October 24, 1943. The Provisional Government did not declare war against Soviet Union, although she was the ally of Britain. Bose always considered Russia as an anti-imperialist power which was only forced by circumstances to join hands with Britain and America due to the defective foreign policy of Germany.²⁶⁴ Russian sympathy for India was evident from the speech of Molotov, the Russian Foreign Minister, at the Washington Security Conference that Russia would like to hear the voice of Free India at future conferences.

Formal recognition was extended to the Provisional Government of Free India, within a few weeks by the Governments of Japan, Germany, Italy, Burma, the Philippines, Nanking, Croatia, Manchukuo and Siam. The Provisional Government thus acquired international legitimacy.

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7. Proclamation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind 1943

After their first defeat at the hands of the British in 1757 in Bengal, the Indian people fought an uninterrupted series of hard and bitter battles over a stretch of one hundred years. The history of this period teems with examples of unparalleled heroism and self-sacrifice. And, in the pages of that history, the names of Mirajuddoula and Mohanlal of Bengal, Haider Ali, Tipu Sultan and Velu Tampi of South India, Appa Sahib Bhonsle and Peshwa Baji Rao of Maharashtra, the Begums of Oudh, Sardar Shyam Singh Atariwala of Punjab and last, but not least, Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi, Tantia Topi, Maharaj Kunwar Singh of Dumraon and Nana Sahib — among others — the names of all these warriors are for ever engraved in letters of gold.

Unfortunately for us, our forefathers did not at first realise that the British constituted a grave threat to the whole of India and they did not therefore put up a united front against the enemy. Ultimately, when the Indian people were roused to the reality of the situation, they made a concerted move — and under the flag of Bahadur Shah in 1857, they fought their last war as free men. In spite of a series of brilliant victories in the early stages of this war, ill-luck and faulty leadership gradually brought about their final collapse and subjugation. Nevertheless, such heroes as the Rani of Jhansi, Tantia Topi, Kunwar Singh and Nana Sahib live like eternal stars in the nation's memory to inspire us to greater deeds of sacrifice and valour.

Forcibly disarmed by the British after 1857 and subjected to terror and brutality, the Indian people lay prostrate for a while, but with the birth of the Indian National Congress in 1885, there came a new awakening. From 1885 till the end of the last

Biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

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World War, the Indian people, in their endeavour to recover their lost liberty, tried all possible methods — namely, agitation and propaganda, boycott of British goods, terrorism and sabotage — and finally armed revolution. But all these efforts failed for a time. Ultimately, in 1920, when the Indian people, haunted by a sense of failure were groping for a new method, Mahatma Gandhi came forward with the new weapon of non-co-operation and civil disobedience.

For two decades thereafter, the Indian people went through a phase of intense patriotic activity. The message of freedom was carried to every Indian home. Through personal example, people were taught to suffer, to sacrifice and to die in the cause of freedom. From the centre to the remotest villages, the people were knit together into one political organisation. Thus, the Indian people not only recovered their political consciousness, but became a political entity once again. They could now speak with one voice and strive with one will for one common goal. From 1937 to 1939, through the work of the Congress Ministries in eight provinces, they gave proof of their readiness and capacity to administer their own affairs.

Thus, on the eve of the present World War, the stage was set for the final struggle for India's Liberation. During the course of this war, Germany with the help of her allies has dealt shattering blows to our enemy in Europe — while Nippon, with the help of her allies has inflicted a knock-out blow to our enemy in East Asia. Favoured by a most happy combination of circumstances, the Indian people today, have a wonderful opportunity for achieving their national emancipation.

For the first time in recent history, Indians abroad have also been politically roused and united in one organisation. They are not only thinking and feeling in tune with their countrymen at home, but are also marching in step with them, along the path to freedom. In East Asia, in particular, over two million Indians are now organised as one solid phalanx, inspired by the slogan of Total Mobilisation. And in front of them stand the

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Appendix VII

serried ranks of India's Army of Liberation, with the slogan 'Onward to Delhi' on their lips.

Having goaded Indians to desperation by its hypocrisy and having driven them to starvation and death by plunder and loot, British rule in India has forfeited the goodwill of the Indian people altogether and is now living a precarious existence. It needs but a flame to destroy the last vestige of that unhappy rule. To light that flame is the task of India's Army of Liberation. Assured of the enthusiastic support of the civil population at home and also of a large section of Britain's Indian Army and backed by a gallant and invincible allies abroad — but relying in the first instance on its own strength, India's Army of Liberation is confident of fulfilling its historic role.

Now that the dawn of Freedom is at hand, it is the duty of the Indian people to set up a Provisional Government of their own, and launch the last struggle under the banner of that Government. But with all the Indian leaders in prison, the people at home totally disarmed — it is not possible to set up a Provisional Government within India or to launch an armed struggle under the aegis of that Government. It is, therefore, the duty of the Indian Independence League in East Asia, supported by all patriotic Indians at home and abroad to undertake this task — the task of setting up a Provisional Government of Azad Hind (Free India) and of conducting the last fight for freedom, with the help of the Army of Liberation (that is, the Azad Hind Fauj or the Indian National Army) organised by the League.

Having been constituted as the Provisional Government of Azad Hind by the Indian Independence League in East Asia, we enter upon our duties with a full sense of the responsibility that has devolved on us. We pray that Providence may bless our work and our struggle for the emancipation of our Motherland. And we hereby pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of her Freedom, of her welfare, and her exaltation among the nations of the world.

Biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

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It will be the task of the Provisional Government to launch and to conduct the struggle that will bring about the expulsion of the British and of their allies from the soil of India. It will then be the task of the Provisional Government to bring about the establishment of a permanent National Government of Azad Hind constituted in accordance with the will of the Indian people and enjoying their confidence. After the British and their allies are overthrown and until a permanent National Government of Azad Hind is set up on Indian soil, the Provisional Government will administer the affairs of the country in trust for the Indian people.

The Provisional Government is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Indian. It guarantees religious liberty, as well as equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens. It declares its firm resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally and transcending all the differences cunningly fostered by an alien Government in the past.

In the name of God, in the name of bygone generations who have welded the Indian people into one nation and in the name of the dead heroes who have bequeathed to us a tradition of heroism and self-sacrifice — we call upon the Indian people to rally round our banner and strike for India's Freedom. We call upon them to launch the final struggle against the British and all their allies in India and to prosecute that struggle with valour and perseverance and with full faith in Final Victory — until the enemy is expelled from Indian soil and the Indian people are once again a Free Nation.

Signed on behalf of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind :—

Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the State, Prime Minister and Minister for War, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army.

278 231
Appendix VII

Capt. Miss Lakshmi (Women's Organisation), S. A. Ayer (Publicity and Propaganda), Lt.-Col. A. C. Chatterjee (Finance), Lt.-Col. Aziz Ahmed, Lt.-Col. N. S. Bhagat, Col. J. K. Bhonsle, Lt.-Col. Gulzara Singh, Lt.-Col. M. Z. Kiani, Lt.-Col. A. D. Loganathan, Lt.-Col. Ehsan Qadir, Lt.-Col. Shah Nawaz (Representatives of the Armed Forces); A. M. Sahay, Secretary (with Ministerial Rank); Rash Behari Bose (Supreme Adviser); Karim Gani, Debnath Das, D. M. Khan, A. Yellappa, J. Thivy, Sardar Ishar Singh (Advisers); A. N. Sarkar (Legal Adviser).

(227) ~~Copy~~ (original with Cons.) (232) (1856) (59)
A-576 NEW DELHI-100 14/10/93 18001ST.

INCCMING TELEX

FM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI.

TO: INDEMBASSY TOKYO.

CA for 15/11

G B SINGH MINISTER(CONSULAR) FROM DIR(P).

REFCORRESPONDENCE REG. ISSUANCE OF RAPS FOR MR. SHUTARO KOTANI AND THREE OTHERS TO ATTEND THE GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE AZAD HIND FAUJ(INA) AT MOIRANG. AS YOU KNOW ON RECEIPT OF YOUR TELEX TO JS(AP) WE HAD REQUESTED THAT MHA CONSIDER THE CASE POSITIVELY AND EXPEDITE REPLY. US(F.VIII)'S TELEX WAS SENT IN VIEW OF YOUR INTIMATION THAT YOU INTENDED TO ISSUE THE RAPS WITHOUT CLEARANCE.

A FINAL DECISION IS LIKELY TO BE MADE TOMORROW MORNING
WE WILL CONTACT YOU AS SOONEST POSSIBLE. REGARDS.

= FOREIGN NEW DELHI=

COLLS:- A-576/MEA/HR/1418351ST

for info pl
D/m

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INCOMING TELEX

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A-512 NEW DELHI 130 12-10-93 1540HRS

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

DCM FROM DIR(AP)

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CONTINUATION MY TELEX OF 29.9.93 REGARDING GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE AZAD HIND FAUJ (INA) AT MOIRANG FROM OCTOBER 21-23 1993 (.) THE GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS ARE BEING ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ART AND CULTURE AS THE NODAL AGENCY (.) WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT COMMERCE MINISTER SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE WILL BE THE CHIEF GUEST WHILE OTHERS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO GRACE THE OCCASION ARE SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO I AND B MINISTER AND SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV AND SHRI SUKH RAM (.) WE UNDERSTAND THAT MR. SHIMODA HAS CONFIRMED HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE CELEBRATIONS (.)

AS REGARDS THE NETAJI MEMORIAL AT MOIRANG WHICH WAS ATTACKED AND DAMAGED, A NEW REPLICA OF THE DAMAGED STATUE IS UNDER INSTALLATION (.) REGARDS (.)

FOREIGN

COLLS:- A-512/MEA/MSJ/121640

INCOMING TELEX (57)

(234) (18)
A-1391 NEW DELHI-150 29/9/93 1810IST.

FM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI.

TO: INDEMBASSY TOKYO.

DCM FROM DIR(AP).

REFYRFAX NO. TOK/102/2/92 DT. 27/8/93 REGARDING THE
ENQUIRY FROM MR T SHIMODA OF THE NETAJI SUBHASH BOSE ACADEMY,
TOKYO IN CONNECTION WITH THE INVITATION FROM SHRI L JOYCHANDRA
SINGH, IMPHAL(MANIPUR) INVITING MR SHIMODA AND HIS COLLEAGUES
TO ATTEND THE GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE AZAD HIND FAUJ
(INA) AT MOIRANG FROM OCTOBER 21-23, 1993.

WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION FROM PMO, WHO
HAVE INFORMED US THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE HAD ALSO BEEN
CONSULTED AND DO NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT INFORMATION ON THIS.
WE HAVE WRITTEN TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT FOR MORE
DETAILS/INFORMATION. WILL REVERT ON RECEIPT OF A RESPONSE FROM
THEM.

YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT THE NETAJI MEMORIAL AT MOIRANG
WAS ATTACKED / DAMAGED AS CONVEYED RECENTLY. REGARDS.

=.FOREIGN NEW DELHI

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Please repeat.

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BOSE
GOVT ATTORNEY CLARIFIES ON +POSTHUMOUS+ ST

Pl. keep on
relevant file.
By 29/9
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BOSE
GOVT ATTORNEY CLARIFIES ON +POSTHUMOUS+ STATUS OF SUBHASH BOSE

CALCUTTA, SEPT 29 (PTI) INDIA'S ADDITIONAL ATTORNEY GENERAL ON WEDNESDAY DEFENDED THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO AWARD POSTHUMOUSLY THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD TO INDEPENDENCE LEADER SUBHASHCHANDRA BOSE, WHOSE DEATH IS STILL A MATTER OF DEBATE.

BIJON GHOSH, A CALCUTTA HIGH COURT ADVOCATE, HAD FILED A WRIT PETITION AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO DECLARE 'NETAJI' SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AS THE 'POSTHUMOUS' RECIPIENT OF THE BHARAT RATNA AWARD FOR 1992, SAYING IT HAD CREATED A GREAT COMMOTION IN THE COUNTRY AND CONTROVERSY NOW AROSE AS TO HOW THE GOVERNMENT CONCLUDED THAT NETAJI WAS DEAD.

IF SO THE CENTRE SHOULD DECLARE THE DATE AND TIME OF HIS DEATH, HE DEMANDED.

ADDITIONAL ATTORNEY GENERAL K.T.S TULSI APPEARING FOR THE GOVERNMENT SAID, THE EVIDENCE ACT CLEARLY STATED THAT IF A PERSON WAS NOT SEEN OR HIS VOICE HEARD BY ANY OTHER PERSON FOR SEVEN YEARS AT A STRETCH, HE WAS DECLARED 'POSTHUMOUS'.

TULSI SAID, IN THIS CASE, THE WRIT PETITIONER DID NOT SEE NETAJI FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, WHO HAD NOT BEEN SEEN OR HEARD OF FOR THE LAST 45 YEARS, THEREFORE HE WAS TREATED AS POSTHUMOUS IN THE EYE OF LAW.

HE ARGUED, IF A PERSON SAW OR HEARD A MAN WITHIN SEVEN YEARS AFTER HE HAD BEEN DECLARED POSTHUMOUS, ONLY THAT PERSON COULD FILE A CASE CHALLENGING THAT THE PERSON DECLARED POSTHUMOUS WAS ALIVE. MORE PTI SP

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CALCUTTA

HE FURTHER SAID, THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE AWARD FOR NETAJI LAST YEAR, HAD GENERATED A LOT OF RESENTMENT AMONG POLITICAL LEADERS IN BENGAL AND MEMBERS OF THE BOSE FAMILY FOLLOWING WHICH THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED NOT TO GO AHEAD WITH AWARDED THE SAME TO NETAJI.

MOST INDIAN SUPPORTERS OF BOSE BELIEVE THAT HE WAS NOT AMONG THE VICTIMS OF AN AIRCRASH NEAR TOKYO IN AUGUST 1945, AS IS WIDELY HELD. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT TOO IS QUITE ON THE SENSITIVE ISSUE AND TILL DATE HAS NOT OFFICIALLY DECLARED WHETHER THE FOUNDER OF INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA) IS DEAD OR ALIVE.

THE DIRECTOR OF UNION HOME MINISTRY, C. NATH AND COUNSELS, RATHINDRANATH DAS AND ARATI DUTTA ALSO APPEARED ON BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BEFORE JUSTICE SHYAMAL SEN OF THE CALCUTTA HIGH COURT TO FILE AN AFFIDAVIT IN COURT.

TULSI FILED A SIX-PAGE AFFIDAVIT WHICH CONTAINED SOME DOCUMENTS WHICH COULD NOT BE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED. COUNSELS, DAS AND DUTTA STATED THAT THE DOCUMENTS WOULD BE TREATED AS PRIVILEGED DOCUMENTS AND MUST BE PRODUCED IN COURT.

JUSTICE SEN ADJOURNED THE HEARING OF THE CASE TILL DECEMBER SIX. PTI SP

NATIONAL

INDIAN REVOLUTIONARY REMEMBERED

Bose's ashes kept from homeland

By MIYUKI ARAI
Staff writer

The ashes of Indian revolutionary Subhas Chandra Bose have remained in a Tokyo temple for 48 years despite the longtime urging of Japanese war veterans who want



Subhas Chandra Bose

his remains repatriated.

Holding up the effort is a suit filed by Bose's relatives, who refuse to believe he is dead.

The roughly 30 Japanese war veterans have been asking Indian officials since 1958 to take Bose's ashes from

Renkoji Temple in Sugunami Ward.

The veterans, members of the Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, an association set up in his memory, were involved in plotting strategies in a failed campaign for Indian independence.

They and their relatives recently held a memorial service to mark the 48th anniversary of Bose's death on Aug. 18, 1945.

Bose, who advocated independence from the British, led an army of Indian volunteers against the allies during the Burma campaign under Japanese sponsorship.

Plane crash

He died in a Tokyo hospital after a plane crash in Taiwan. He was en route to the Soviet Union following Japan's surrender when the plane went down.

It is not widely known that Bose's ashes are still in Japan with little chance of being returned home.

After the memorial service at Renkoji Temple, Masao Hayashi, 80, secretary of the academy, said, "As the mem-



VETERANS and others pose after a memorial service at Tokyo's Renkoji Temple on Aug. 18, the 48th anniversary of the death of Indian revolutionary Subhas Chandra Bose.

bers of the academy who remember Bose grow older, the hope for Bose's soul returning home will be lost forever.

"I feel very sorry that Netaji, who fought with us during the war, has not been able to go home for nearly 50 years." Netaji, Hindi for respected leader, was Bose's nickname.

Back in India, close relatives of Bose do not believe he died, even though Indian officials who visited Taipei and Tokyo inspected the evidence of the plane crash and determined that the ashes are those of Bose.

Independence struggle

In contrast to Mahatma Gandhi, who started the Non-cooperation Movement and made the National Congress a nonviolent organization, Bose planned to strengthen the independence struggle against

the British with Japanese assistance.

Bose, who was born in 1897, reportedly helped instill a vision among his people of a national militia. His philosophy was sometimes at odds with Gandhi's.

Indian soldiers of the British Indian Army in Japanese captivity were set free to join up with Bose. Compatriots from Singapore and other parts of Southeast Asia also volunteered.

In 1943, Bose proclaimed establishment of a provisional independent Indian government and the Indian National Army. The Axis powers recognized the regime.

In the following year, with Japanese support, he led an abortive Indian advance on Rangoon and India.

"We see Bose as a symbol of friendship between Japan

and India," said G. B. Singh, minister of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo. Singh also attended the memorial service.

Although some Indian leaders have visited Renkoji Temple and members of the academy have repeatedly asked through the Japanese government for Bose's ashes to be sent to India, the suit by his relatives has blocked their efforts.

With little hope for the repatriation, members of the academy have decided to disband after a memorial service on next year's anniversary of his death, according to Hayashi.

Bose proved that Indians in the British Army could be inspired by his patriotic action, Hayashi said, noting his vigor paved the way to independence.

*Japan Times
3rd September '93*



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

FAX MESSAGE

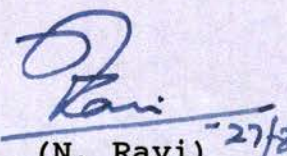
FROM INDEMBASSY TOKYO
TO FOREIGN NEWDELHI
RPT
RPT
SH.D.LAHIRI, JS(AP) FROM N. RAVI, CDA
FILE NO. TOK/102/2/92
NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING TITLE PAGE 2

Dear Shri. Lahiri,

Mr. T. Shimoda, a member of the Netaji Subhash Bose Academy, Tokyo, has informed us that he has received a few letters from Shri L. Joychandra Singh, Imphal, Manipur, conveying that a 21-member National Reception Committee has been formed to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Azad Hind Fauj (INA) at Moirang from October 21 to 23, 1993. Reportedly these festivities are to be inaugurated by Prime Minister. For Mr. Shimoda and his colleagues to convey final acceptance of the invitation extended to them, they would like to know whether these Golden Jubilee celebrations are being held officially and whether the Reception Committee has been organised by the Government of India.

Would be grateful if you could have the request made by Mr. Shimoda checked up through appropriate authorities in India and confirm the status to us.

Regards,


(N. Ravi)
August 27, 1993

54. m. b. a

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L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

Fax No.- 001-19-385-5544, Prajatantra Imphal
 Tele - PRAJATANTRA, IMPHAL.

Phone { 220147 [o]
 221494 [o]
 221538 [o]
 220471 [R]

PRAJATANTRA BUILDINGS
 IMPHAL, MANIPUR, INDIA.

Fax No. 0081-467-23-3277 Japan

Mr. T. Shimoda,

Tele No. 0467-31-1484

COPY

Imphal July 30, 1993.

Dear Mr. T. Shimoda,

Thank you very much for your 27 July 1993 fax.

India is going to celebrate the Golden Jubilee
 of Azad Hind Fauj (INA) at Moirang for three days
 from 21st to 23rd October 1993.

A National 21 members reception committee has
 been constituted by the Government ⁱⁿ which I have been
 appointed as the member of the committee. Prime Minister
 Mr. Rao will inaugurate the celebration. Many ministers,
 Leaders of the Government of India will attend the
 function. I have proposed to invite Mr. T. Shimoda, Mr.
 Kotani and President of the Netaji Subash Chandra Bose
 Academy, Tokyo. Formal invitation will be issued by the
 Government to you. Please let me know whether you will
 be able to attend the function on 21st October 1993 or
 not? Kindly give me the name and address of the President
 and general secretary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose
 Academy Tokyo by fax.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. Joychandra Singh)



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54

N. Ravi
Chargé d'Affaires

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
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Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

No.TOK/102/2/93

August 27, 1993

Dear

Please refer to our earlier of even number dated June 1, 1993, regarding the return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

I enclose herewith copy of a note recorded by Minister(Consular) Shri G.B.Singh, who attended the memorial service at the Renkoji Temple, organised on August 18, 1993.

We would be grateful if you could let us know the results of your efforts towards taking of a decision regarding the return of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose back to India.

Kind regards,

PS(1)
Yours sincerely,

(N. Ravi)

Shri Dilip Lahiri,
Joint Secretary(AP),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

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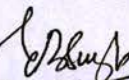
On Aug 18 afternoon I attended the memorial service at the local Renkoji Temple organised by Netaji Subhash Chander Bose Academy to mark the 48th Death Anniversary of Netaji. As per past practice the memorial service was held in the main temple which was led by Rev. Mochizuki (son of late Rev. Mochizuki who received Netaji's ashes at this temple). Thereafter about 50 persons were present at this ceremony moved down to a hall where speeches were delivered by members of the Subhash Bose Academy and other guests reminiscing their experiences of working closely with the INA. Some of them who knew Netaji personally extolled his virtues as a great freedom fighter of India. Towards the end of this function I was also asked to say something on this occasion. I made a brief speech thanking Rev. Mochizuki and members of the Netaji Subhash Bose Academy for taking care of Netaji ashes during the last about 48 years.

2. Unlike the previous years (I attended the memorial service and the meeting in 1991 and 1992 also) when there were no press reporters at the memorial service or at the meeting, this time reporters from the Japan Times, Kyodo News Service, Nihon Kezai Shimbun and JIJI press were present at the both the places. Soon after the memorial service at the temple was over, these press reporters came to me and started asking questions as to why Indian authorities have not so far taken away the ashes from Renkoji temple, etc. I told them that it would be inappropriate for me to hold a press conference in a temple where we have gathered to pay our homage to Netaji. Thereafter when we moved down to the hall I found that 4 or 5 chairs around my seat were deliberately kept vacant which were later occupied by these reporters.

3. As these reporters were rather persistent I thought it better not to avoid them anylonger. Their questions mainly related the delay in the repatriation of Netaji's ashes to India and a few about his role in the India's Independence movement. Giving a brief background as to why the ashes could not be repatriated so far, I informed them about the doubts in the minds of some of the Netaji's close relatives and friends about the death of Netaji in the air crash on Aug 18, 1945, and it sometimes becomes difficult for the Government to remove such doubts. When they asked me as to whether I was attending the function in my personal or official capacity, they were told that the Indian Embassy Tokyo has always been officially represented at the memorial service. One of the reporters mentioned that he has learnt that the 50th memorial service will be the last service which will be performed by the Subhash Bose Academy. In view of that he wanted to know whether the ashes will be repatriated to India or shifted to the Indian Embassy after that. They were told that as there are still two years to go for the 50th anniversary, the matter will be considered in due course. They asked a few more questions about Netaji's activities as a freedom fighter which were answered as briefly as possible.

4. Even other speakers during their speeches during this function were more vocal about the need for the repatriation of Netaji ashes with honour to India. Their main plea was as they are getting old ~~and~~, it would not be possible for them to safeguard these ashes with the respect that they deserve.

5. In view of the above mentioned it appears we will come under increasing pressure from the members of the Netaji Subhash Academy to repatriate Netaji's ashes to India as soon as possible. A couple of articles in this respect have already appeared in Nihon Kezai Shimbun (August 12 and 15 - English translation enclosed). It appears a few more would follow presumably based on the discussions by the above quoted press reporters with me at the Renkoji Temple on August 18.


(G. B. Singh)
Minister (C) 28/8/93

*analyzed
and
P. ...*

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~~121~~ A (B51) (13) (243) 1856
Nihon Keizai Shinbun August 15 1993

Memorial service for Chandra Bose will come to an end next year

Subhash Chandra Bose:

He was born in a wealthy family in India. Studied at Cambridge University. Though he passed the ICS examination Bose plunged into independence movement. In 1938 he was elected Congress President but resigned because of differences with other leaders including Gandhi. He went on hunger strike to protest against British oppression. In 1941 Bose escaped to Berlin and began anti-British broadcasts from there. In 1943 he came to Japan. In cooperation with the Japanese Army Bose proclaimed the Free Indian Government in Singapore. As a commander of Indian National Army Bose and his forces fought warfare in Imphal. After the surrender of Japan on his way to the Soviet Union he was killed in air crash in Taiwan.

A memorial service for Chandra Bose will be held on August 18 at the Renkeji temple in Tokyo. Chandra Bose, was a hero of freedom struggle of India, was killed in air crash in 1945. He dared to have formed alliance with the Japanese Army which inflicted tremendous suffering on people of Asia for the sake of India's independence. Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, which has been organizing a memorial service every year in the past, decided to put an end to the service next year since most of its members have passed away or become old. Eye witnesses of the 'Indian army in the Japanese army' and tragedy of Japanese and Indian soldiers who were forced to fight a warfare in Imphal become less and less.

"Most of leading figures of the academy have passed. I am the only survivor of my generation who knew Bose. One wants to hold a memorial service continuously." said Mr. Hayashi, the secretary general of the academy.

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Mayashi's

troops together with the 'Indian National Army' under the command of Bose took part in Imphal operation in 1944. Mr. Mayashi who spoke Hindi worked as a liaison officer between the Indian National Army and the Japanese Army. The military operation ended in failure. "It was reckless operation. I survived the danger because I was alone. Other soldiers who fight the war with their fellow soldiers died out of malaria and chera" said Mr. Mayashi. "The Special Service Agency sounds strange and leaves bad impression. But we did nothing wrong. We sincerely supported India's independence. Thanks to Bose's personality the Indian National Army was well disciplined. They were wonderful people." he added.

Following the surrender of Japan, ashes of Bose were brought to Japan. Members of the Academy have been calling on the Indian Government to accept the ashes. Late P.M. Nehru visited the Kenkeji Temple where the ashes were kept but the Indian Government has been refusing to accept the ashes. "The Indian Government can hardly accept Bose who split with the Congress. The ashes would not be returned to India" said Mr. Mayashi.

1856

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Nihon Keizai Shimbun, 12 August 1993

(H. Komiyama)

Voices From Japan Does Not Reach Indian Government

-Remains of Mr. Chandra Bose

()

Remains of Mr. Chandra Bose, one of the leaders of Independent Movement who fought with the independent forces during the World War II, are still unsettled for 48 years.

Chandra Bose Academy whose members are mostly from the army which supported India's independence have been contacting Indian government to return his remains to his home country. They are concerned that there will be only a few people who supported the independence activity and know about him.

Mr. Bose is a leader of India's independence as well as Gandhi and Nehru. He established INA and joined Inpal Plan with Japanese army.

He died on the 18th of August, 1945 in the air accident in Taipei. Since then his remains are kept in a temple in Nakano-ku, Tokyo.

12 Aug 93 (ed.)

インド独立運動指導者
チャンドラ・ボース

遺骨返還なお宙に

日本側の熱意、インド政府に通じず



チャンドラ・ボース

第二次大戦中、インド独立軍を率いてインパール作戦に参加するなど悲運の生涯を送り、日本に遺骨があるインド独立運動の指導者の一人、チャンドラ・ボースの遺骨返還問題が昔に浮いたまま、十八日で四十八年を迎える。

旧陸軍関係者の再三の働き掛けにもインド政府の反応は鈍く「返還運動を支えてきた人々が高齢化し、ボースを知る人がいなくなればボースの魂は永遠にインドに帰還できなくなる」と危機感を訴えている。

返還運動の中心となっているのは大戦中、インド独立を支援した旧陸軍関係者で構成するチャンドラ・ボース・アカデミー(林正夫事務長)。毎年、ボースの命日の八月十八日にインド政府関係者らを集めた慰霊祭を開催するなど遺骨引き取りを訴えた。

日本側の熱意、インド政府に通じず

ボースはガンジー、ネルと並ぶインド独立の指導者の一人。一九三八年、インド国民会議派の議長に就任したが、その後、反英闘争の路線を巡りガンジーと対立。大戦中に東南アジアのインド人や、捕虜となった英印軍内インド兵を再組織してインド独立軍(INA)を設立、日本軍とともにインパール作戦に参加した。

日本の敗戦により、ソ連への亡命途上の四五年八月十八日、台北の松山空港で航空機事故により客死。仮の安置所として東京都中野区の蓮光寺に葬られた。

For information, pl

JL
13/8

Ambassador

Pl. send W

H. D.V.

By 15/8

Sent

JSC (P)

Sent

SSC (P)
→ AL (P)JL
16/8

T-363 TOKYO 13.08.93 20:10

OUTGOING TELEX

FROM: INDEMBASSY TOKYO

TO: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

DIRECTOR (AP) FROM FS (P AND I)

REPTD: US (XP)

COVERAGE ON INDIA IN LOCAL PRESS

NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN OF 12TH AUGUST HAS CARRIED
THE FOLLOWING STORY FREE TRANSLATION OF WHICH IS AS UNDER:

VOICES FROM JAPAN DOES NOT REACH INDIA GOVERNMENT

-REMAINS OF MR. CHANDRA BOSE

REMAINS OF MR. CHANDRA BOSE, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF INDEPENDENT
MOVEMENT WHO FOUGHT WITH THE INDEPENDENT FORCES DURING THE WORLD WAR
II, ARE STILL UNSETTLED FOR 48 YEARS.

CHANDRA BOSE ACADEMY WHOSE MEMBERS ARE MOSTLY FROM THE ARMY
WHICH SUPPORTED INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE HAVE BEEN CONTACTING INDIAN
GOVERNMENT TO RETURN HIS REMAINS TO HIS HOME COUNTRY. THEY ARE
CONCERNED THAT THERE WILL BE ONLY A FEW PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED THE
INDEPENDENCE ACTIVITY AND KNOW ABOUT HIM.

MR. BOSE IS A LEADER OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE AS WELL AS GANDHI
AND NEHRU. HE ESTABLISHED INA AND JOINED INPAL PLAN WITH JAPANESE
ARMY.

HE DIED ON THE 18TH OF AUGUST, 1945 IN THE AIR ACCIDENT IN
TAIPEI. SINCE THEN HIS REMAINS ARE KEPT IN A TEMPLE IN NAKANO-KU,
TOKYO.

2. THE DAILY YOMIURI OF 13TH AUGUST HAS CARRIED V.S. NAIPAUL'S
INTERVIEW, TITLED ''HINDUS AWAKENING TO HISTORY'', WHICH IS FAXED
SEPARATELY.

INDEMBASSY TOKYO

COLLS: T-363 TKY/MM 13 20:17 JST

(246)

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16/8/
FS (B&I)

PR SPW

7/1
16/8

88(P)

FAX



248

(12)

1/2 1856

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
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No.TOK/102/2/92

August 23, 1993

From: Indembassy Tokyo
To: Foreign New Delhi

JS (AP) from FS (P&I)

Reptd: JS (XP)
DG (ICCR) - Foreign pl pass
Dir (FSO)

Subhas Chandra Bose

Text of an article in Nikkei Weekly of 23rd August,
1993 is faxed below.

Separate copy
put up to
DCM/Amb.

Re keep
on file

23/8

Al (701)



Subhas
Chandra Bose
posing for a
picture taken in
1944.

P.T.O.

Old soldiers honor Indian patriot, own role in war

BY FUMIO SUMIYA
Staff writer

When some 40 aging members of the Subhas Chandra Bose Academy gathered last week at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo's Sugunami Ward, two topics dominated the conversation.

For some members, mostly former members of "Hikari", a secret military agency in the Imperial Japanese Army, the gathering was simply to pay tribute to Subhas Chandra Bose, a leader of the Indian independence movement in World War II.

The men had fought alongside Bose in a bid to shake up British control of India. Bose's ashes have been kept at the temple since he was killed in a plane crash in Taiwan on Aug. 18, 1945.

For other members, the memorial service was overshadowed by a yearning to speak out against recent statements by members of the new Hosokawa coalition government calling World War II a "war of aggression" and apologizing to other Asian nations.

"It was very regrettable that the prime minister said we had invaded neighboring countries," said society member Futachinosuke Nagoshi, 70, a former university professor of history.

Masao Hayashi, 80, the academy's manager, added, "It is true that the Japanese army partly invaded Asian countries. But it is also true that our activity assisted Indian independence as a result."

The old soldiers' spirited statements during a meeting after the memorial service said a lot about the depth of feelings about the war that still linger almost half a century after its end.

"I haven't attended this ceremony for several years, but I can't keep my silence toward the new government, which denies our activities," said one member.

Academy members believe that their activities helped India achieve its independence by working with Bose against the British.

Nevertheless, after 49 years of paying annual tribute to Bose, academy members are reluctantly preparing to break up their organization, formed in 1948.

"By commemorating Bose and our relationship with him, we recall our wartime life," said Hayashi. "However,

our members are already old. We can no longer continue the commemoration so we have to break up the academy after the 50th ceremony next year."

Under the traditional Buddhist way of counting, the organization will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his death in August 1994.

At last week's ceremony, members of the private society were joined by an official from the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

In India, there is no commemoration of Bose's death, Hayashi said, and Bose has a controversial reputation in the place where he fought for independence.

Indeed, while the academy has asked the Indian government to take back Bose's ashes and former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru once visited Renkoji Temple, the Indian government has not agreed to accept the remains.

"Bose is considered a political opponent of the Congress Party I. He will never go back to his homeland," Hayashi said.

Although Bose was elected president of the All-India National Congress Party in 1938, he resigned soon afterward because he opposed Mahatma Gandhi's insistence on nonviolent resistance.

After moving to Germany, Bose began making radio broadcasts against the UK, then went to Japan in 1943. In Singapore, he proclaimed the establishment of an independent Indian government and founded the Indian National Army in cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Army.

Bose later participated in a major military operation at Imphal in India near the Myanmar border, where his army and the Japanese were defeated by the British.

After Japan's World War II defeat, Bose tried to go to the Soviet Union to continue his independence movement. But a plane crash put an end to his life at age 49.

While Hayashi said that he has Bose's death certificate, some members of an official Indian mission that came to Japan to verify the death later claimed that Bose did not die.

Even now, some people believe that Bose is still alive. And the Indian government officially attributes its rejection of Bose's ashes to the existence of these doubters.

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N. Ravi
Deputy Chief of Mission

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No.TOK/102/2/92

June 1, 1993

Dear

I would like to draw your attention to our letter of even number dated May 12, 1992, wherein a petition given by the Netaji Subhash Academy to us, had been enclosed. The petition had requested that our PM Shri Narasimha Rao visit the Renkoji Temple during his June 1992 visit here and that the ashes of Netaji be returned to India as soon as possible. *smo.5*

I also enclose copy of a letter received recently by Ambassador from Mr.Hayashida which is on the same lines i.e. regarding the return of ashes to India. *smo.6*

We would be grateful if you could have the matter considered at your end and let us have a response in due course.

Yours sincerely,

(Signature)
/c (N. Ravi)

Shri Dilip Lahiri,
Joint Secretary (AP),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

February 19, 1993

His Excellency
Mr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
The President of the
Republic of India
The President's Office
New Delhi
India

Your Excellency:

First of all, let me extend my most sincere congratulations on your new term of office as the President of the Republic of India.

I must ask an excuse to let me introduce myself. I am 74 years old retired person, and had served the Imperial Japanese Army during the Pacific War. At the end of the War, I was ordered to escort the remains of Netaji Chandra Bose to Tokyo from Taipei, Formosa (Taiwan), who was killed in August 1945 by an aircraft crash there. Since then, I have been trying to return the ash of Netaji to its native country, but failed. The ash is still enshrined at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, and enclosed you may find, President Prasad, Prime Minister Nehru, Prime Minister Gandhi and Netaji's family paid visit there when they came to Japan.

I am very pleased to know the news that the government of India has recently announced bestowal of the Bharat Ratna, the highest decoration in the country, to Netaji. To take this opportunity, I would like to ask you for the special favor, so that the ash shall be returned in a secure and honorable manner.

As you may recognize, it is my earnest and lifetime wish to return the ash of Netaji to its motherland. I am getting older and the time left to me is not long. I sincerely wish to have your special attention on this, and to hear a good news.

Very truly yours,

Tatsuo Hayashida

Tatsuo Hayashida

encls.

cc: His Excellency Mr. Prakash Shar
Ambassador of the Republic of India in Japan

-2-
Embassy of India
Tokyo.

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As desired by the Ambassador,
a self-contained note is prepared
on the subject: "Netaji's ashes".

Ambassador may kindly see

Rajmohan
(C. RAJASEKHAR)

Through DCI.

S.S. Rm 244

Ref F.R. (Fax Msg. of 21.4.94 from
Mr. Ashis Ray)

2. We had written to MEA (AP Divn) on
June 1 & August 27, '93. The letters are
flagged. We have not received any
reply from the Ministry. The decision
by GoI to celebrate the Founding Day of
INA in Oct '93 could have overtaken
efforts, if any, made by the AP Division.

3. The Japanese position on INA/Netaji
Memorial at Imphal has been ~~in~~
reflected in the ~~visit~~ undertaken by
Mr. Shimoda and his companions to
Imphal. (Fax Message at "XX"). They
finally managed to visit Imphal on time.

May kindly see.

Ravi

27/4/94

Ambassador.

(8) (23) W
SECRET

NETAJI'S ASHES AND THE NEED TO
REPATRIATE THEM TO INDIA

Following Japan's surrender to the allied forces, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose embarked upon a journey from Saigon to Dairen in Manchuria, by a Japanese bomber. On board the plane were, besides Netaji, his INA associate Col. Habibur Rahman, Japanese officers posted to Manchuria and crew members. The plane had left Saigon at 5.00 p.m. on August 17, 1945 and arrived at Touraine at 7.45 p. m. The party spent the night there. The next morning, i.e. on August 18, 1945 they had left Touraine and arrived at Taipei at 2.00 p.m. The party had lunch there. And the plane took off at 2.35 p.m. from Taipei. Within a few seconds, the plane crashed and Netaji had sustained burn injuries of the third degree and succumbed to his injuries in an Army hospital at Taihoku, Taiwan on August 18, 1945.

Two days later, his body was cremated. The ashes were finally taken to the Renkoji Temple, located in Suginami-ku, Tokyo, on September 18, 1945. Although ashes are normally brought to temples only for the purpose of the funeral ceremony, Rev. Mochizuki, father of the present Head Priest of the temple, in this particular case, agreed to keep them in safe custody --

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considering the fact that the ashes belonged to a well-known Indian leader, -- till such time, they could be taken to India. The ashes are still lying in the temple.

To dispel the lingering doubts about the death of Netaji in certain quarters and to find out the truth about the plane-crash, Government of India appointed an Enquiry Committee, headed by Maj. Gen. Shah Nawaz Khan (INA), in April, 1956. Other members of the Committee were Messrs. Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Netaji, and S. N. Mitra, ICS. After examining all the evidence it had gathered, it gave a majority report on the 16th July, 1956. Mr. Suresh Chandra Bose gave a dissenting report. The Committee, inter alia, observed :

"The Committee has come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose met his death in an air-crash and that the ashes now at the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, are his ashes. Rev. Mochizuki and the trustees of the temple have already kept the ashes for a number of years. Their services deserve to be recognised. If the ashes are taken to be genuine, Renkoji Temple can not obviously be their final resting place. Netaji died ten years ago. It is time that his ashes were brought to India with due honour, and a memorial erected over them at a suitable place. This we recommend for the serious consideration

of the Government of India."

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The Government of India has accepted the majority report, confirming the death of Netaji on the 18th August, 1945. Referring to this inquiry report, the then PM, Pt. Nehru, in a letter to Sri Suresh Chandra Bose stated :

" ... all the circumstantial evidence that has been produced and which has been referred to in the Enquiry Committee's report has convinced us of the fact that Netaji has died. In addition to this, the lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection, adds to that circumstantial evidence."

The lapse of time mentioned in the above quoted letter has since been increased by another 31 years. In spite of the rather clear verdict given by the Shah Nawaz inquiry report about the death of Netaji, the controversy regarding his disappearance or more accurately, "non-appearance" continued. Besides general dissatisfaction about the procedure adopted by the Committee and the accuracy of the findings, the Committee was particularly criticised for not paying a visit to Taiwan to inspect the site of the alleged crash.

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Amidst rumours of Netaji having been seen alive once again, a petition signed by more than 350 MPs was presented to both the President and the PM, demanding for a properly conducted judicial inquiry into the matter. Accepting the petition, the Cabinet appointed a one-man Commission of Inquiry, consisting of Justice G. D. Khosla, on the 11th July, 1970.

The Commission, after examining all the evidence it had gathered, and after visiting all the places in Asia connected with the subject matter of the Inquiry, including Taiwan, concluded that Netaji died on the 18th August, 1945, two days later his ashes were carried to Tokyo, and that they were deposited in the Renkoji Temple. Justice Khosla inter alia, observed :

" ... from the evidence, I am convinced beyond all reasonable doubts that the wooden casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo contains Bose's ashes and these ashes were placed in the box at Taipei after the cremation of his dead body."

"... Neither the order of Mr. Nehru nor the decision of Mrs. Gandhi to direct an enquiry into the disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose was the consequence of a personal doubt or disbelief in their minds; but, in any event, any number of doubts, any measure of disbelief

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can not add upto anything. The value of such doubt is zero and the sum total of several zeroes is no more than zero."

The Justice Khosla Commission's findings were finally accepted by the Government of India.

Rev. Mochizuki who originally accepted the ashes later on got a small shrine built adjacent to the main hall of the temple, especially to preserve the ashes of Netaji. To mark the day of Netaji's death, on August 18 every year, the temple arranges a special memorial service in honour of Netaji. On August 18, 1990, a bust of Netaji - of about 3 feet high mounted on a 5 feet pedestal - was unveiled and placed near the entrance of the temple.

Rev. Mochizuki has zealously guarded the ashes for 34 years, hoping that India would take them back. But his wish could not be fulfilled in his life time, as he died in June 1979. His son Mr. Koshi Mochizuki has ever since taken over the running of the temple and taking care of the ashes.

Rev. Mochizuki, until his death, and the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy in Japan, consisting of Netaji's associates and admirers, have been making

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persistent efforts to ensure repatriation of these ashes to India. They, however, realised the sensitive nature of this issue and did not push matters by keeping their pleas within reasonable limits. At the same time, they did not hide their disappointment/ frustration over the delay and "Indian Government's indifference towards a national hero, who fought for India's independence", and continued pleading for the repatriation of the ashes "for the sake of goodwill and friendship."

Among the Indian dignitaries to visit the temple were President Rajendra Prasad, PMs, Pandit Nehru (1957), Mrs. Gandhi (1969), External Affairs Ministers Mr. A.B. Vajpayee (1978), Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao (1982) and a Parliamentary delegation led by the speaker in 1978. PM A.B. Vajpayee (Dec 2001)

Japanese Government, from the beginning, has played an important yet quiet role in the whole issue. A Japanese staff officer reportedly escorted the ashes upto the temple and requested the priest to accept them for his custody. In 1955, their Foreign Minister visited the temple and asked the priest to keep the ashes carefully. In January, 1982, when Gen. Iwaichi Fujiwara called on the Foreign and Home Ministers of India in New Delhi, he was accompanied by Mr. T. Mutoh of the Japanese Embassy. Before that he was reportedly briefed by the Japanese

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Ambassador himself at their Embassy. In April, 1984, Japanese press reported that PM Nakasone had accepted the proposal of the Chief Policy Planner (Chairman, Policy Research Council) of the ruling LDP, Masayuki Fujio to return the ashes to India. PM Nakasone had also directed Foreign Ministry officials to study the proposal.

Mr. Fujio, in his meeting with Amb. Madhavan on the 25th October 1985, stated, "... It is 40 years now since the war and most of the friends of Bose have passed away. It is impossible now to take care of his ashes in a proper manner." Amb. Madhavan, in a subsequent letter to the Ministry, wrote, "... Mr. Fujio spoke strongly in favour of India finding a home for the ashes." Fortunately, the Government of Japan has so far seen to it that the issue is not taken to the point of causing embarrassment to India.

Right from the beginning, the Government of India has been constrained by the fact that close members of Netaji's family have not been convinced about his death, although there was no documentary evidence to support their doubts. The Times of India, dated 3rd September 1990, quoted Mr. Amiya Nath Bose, a nephew of Netaji as stating : "Netaji did not die in an air crash in 1945, but something very bad had happened to him in 1947."

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The speculation was that Netaji might have been executed by Stalin or he had been held in custody in a concentration camp in the Soviet Union. On the other hand, Mrs. Bhakti Bose -- wife of Netaji's youngest brother, Mr. Satesh Chandra Bose -- and her son attended the annual memorial service on the 18th August 1989, at Renkoji Temple, suggesting some sort of reconciliation on their part. In this connection, the opinion of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao then the Minister of External Affairs, may be of interest : "... It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to the idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now."

Successive Ambassadors have taken the consistent stand that the Renkoji Temple can not be the final resting place for Netaji's ashes and they should be taken to India in an appropriate manner. This is because, the moral obligation on us is not so much to accept that the ashes in Japan are Netaji's, but to accept the return of the ashes to India whether they are or not. The possibility of an institution like the National Museum receiving the ashes, without any commitment that they are Netaji's ashes; or setting up a non-official committee of public figures to deal with the question; ascertaining the wishes of Netaji's daughter, who is now reported to be living in America were also suggested.

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Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs in its meeting dated 27th February, 1991, examined the issue, based on the note prepared by the MHA. It approved the note. The relevant portion of the note read :

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji. It has already been accepted that Netaji died in the air crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The MHA are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another inquiry or by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

In view of the above quoted, it is felt that if the Government accepts the ashes as being genuine (as it did when accepting the Shah Nawaz Committee and Justice, G.D. Khosla Commission reports), then it lays itself open to the charge of not providing a home and of failing to treat with proper reverence the ashes of one of India's undoubted patriots. Besides, the political difficulties that could arise out of a possible disappearance of ashes from the Renkoji temple, should also be taken into account.

NEED TO BRING ASHES BACK

22

1. Rev. Mochizuki passed away in June, 1979. His son has taken over the temple and also the ashes. For him, the ashes are not something sacred as in his father's case, but only one of the material things, that he has inherited. When Netaji's old associates are no longer there to support this temple, he might, as well treat them as a liability.

2. Old age continues to claim the close Japanese associates of Netaji. Very soon none of his associates will be alive and it is unlikely that the care and respect that is being accorded to his memory at present will also continue in future.

3. Given the Japanese' deep respect and veneration for the mortal remains of the dead -- including war criminals, let alone martyrs -- it looks odd to them that a foreign country is hesitating to receive the ashes of a national hero. This is a source of adverse comment and publicity for India in Japan.

4. Prospect of disappearance due to neglect can not be ruled out, causing avoidable trouble. Although the Embassy is making an annual contribution towards the preservation of the ashes, this in itself can not ensure proper care and respect for the ashes.

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5. Articles that belonged to Netaji, like sword, treasures etc. have been ceremoniously received in India, in spite of the doubts in some quarters about his death.

6. Mrs. Bhakti Bose, (wife of Netaji's youngest brother Mr. Satesh Chandra Bose) and her son, Mr. Vikram Bose have attended the memorial service recently, suggesting that they might have reconciled to the fact of Netaji's death, thereby removing the opposition to the repatriation of the ashes. Mr. Vikram Bose, a British national working in a multi-national company in Tokyo has been attending the ceremony regularly.

7. With the conferment of Bharata Ratna on Netaji in recognition of his services, it may only be natural to receive his ashes with due honour.

With the Government of India having accepted the fact that the ashes are Netaji's ashes, it is increasingly becoming difficult for this Embassy to explain especially to the Japanese people as to why the ashes cannot be repatriated to India. With the passage of time, the opposition in receiving the ashes appears less rational and is also becoming difficult to explain the public sensitivity on the issue, specially to those associates of Netaji who see some close relatives of Netaji attending his memorial service at the temple.

264

In view of the above mentioned, there is an urgent need that the Government of India repatriates the ashes for the safe custody, even if gaining public acceptance for granting the honour that these ashes deserve is still difficult to muster.

1971

GOI appoints enquiry committee headed by Shah Nawaz Khan

Proposed by H. C. Rajashekhar S.S (P)

July 1971

Committee gives majority report confirming the demise of Netaji in the air crash at Taipei and recommends that Netaji's ashes be brought back to India with honour and a suitable memorial erected.

1972

PM Indira Gandhi visits Benkeji Temple

July 1972

GOI appoints a one-man commission headed by Justice S. Khanna to conduct yet another investigation regarding the final journey of Netaji.

Justice Khanna's report was submitted to the Government of India in 1972.

1972

BJP A.B. Vaidya visits Benkeji Temple.

1972

Rev. Mochizuki, Chief priest of Benkeji Temple, who had been guarding Netaji's ashes writes letter.

May 1982

Gen. S. H. B. Vaidya, who was in India and had been in contact with the Japanese, writes letter to the Government of India.

Gen. S. H. B. Vaidya's letter was received by the Government of India in May 1982.

1982

GOI appoints a one-man commission headed by Justice S. Khanna to conduct yet another investigation regarding the final journey of Netaji.

Justice Khanna's report was submitted to the Government of India in 1982.

1982

GOI appoints a one-man commission headed by Justice S. Khanna to conduct yet another investigation regarding the final journey of Netaji.

Justice Khanna's report was submitted to the Government of India in 1982.

23.10.1985

As a result of the investigation conducted by the committee, it was found that the ashes of Netaji were not brought back to India as recommended by the committee. The committee also recommended that the Government of India should take steps to ensure that the ashes of Netaji are brought back to India with honour and a suitable memorial erected.

The committee's report was submitted to the Government of India in 1985.

12.8.98

A 3-wheeled high boat of Netaji is placed near Benkeji Temple of Tokyo.

22.11.91

CCPA in New Delhi while observing a vigil at the INA observed that no actual entry would be made by Netaji as it is impossible for the Japanese to bring the ashes of Netaji back to India as the remains are in a separate manner.

The CCPA's observation was made in 1991.

(7) 265 28

SUMMARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
17.8.1945	Netaji leaves Saigon arrives Tourine	
18.8.1945	Netaji leaves Tourine and arrives Taipei. In the afternoon, soon after plane takes off, it crashes.	
20.8.1945	Netaji's body is cremated at Taipei.	
18.9.1945	Netaji's ashes are brought from Taipei to Japan and kept in Renkoji temple in Suginami-ku, Tokyo	These were kept in the temple <u>pending</u> their return to India in due course.
April 1956	GOI appoints enquiry committee headed by Shah Nawaz Khan.	
July 1956	Committee gives majority report confirming the demise of Netaji in the air crash at Taipei and recommends that Netaji's ashes be brought back to India with honour and a suitable memorial erected.	
1969	PM Indira Gandhi visits Renkoji temple	
July 1970	GOI appoints a one-man commission headed by Justice G.D.Khosla to conduct yet another examination regarding the final journey of Netaji.	Justice Khosla reiterates the earlier findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan's committee, in '74.
1978	EAM A.B.Vajpayee visits Renkoji temple.	
July 1979	Rev. Mochizuki, Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple, who had been guarding Netaji's ashes passes away.	
Jan 1982	Gen.Fujiwara*called on Foreign & Home Ministers in India, New Delhi and to discuss the above	*Worked in the Imperial General HQ in the Deptt. of Intelligence & Propaganda and established first contacts with the India Independence League in 1940/41 in Thailand. Later was to become Lt. General after the II World War.
1982	EAM P.V.Narasimha Rao visits Renkoji Temple.	
1984	Japanese press mentions PM Nakasone as having accepted proposal of Mr.Fujio, Chairman, Policy Research Council of LDP, to return the ashes to India.	
25.10. 1985	In a meeting with Ambassador Madhavan, Fujio makes a strong plea for the return of the ashes to India as it is impossible for the Japanese to continue to take care of the remains in an appropriate manner.	
18.8.90	A 3-foot high bust of Netaji is placed near Renkoji Temple of Tokyo.	
27.2.91	CCPA in New Delhi while examining a note of the MHA observes that no useful purpose will be served by holding another enquiry or bringing back the ashes as this might create unnecessary tensions.	

Ref. We and Ambassador verbal instructions.
A draft dr. letter, on behalf of the Ambassador
is enclosed for approval. The enclosed file, obtained
from P.S. to Amb., appears to be old and closed.
It appears there is another (current) file from which
the letter could be issued.

Ambassador

P. Singh
16/3/91

TS - Rajshakar should be asked
to prepare a self-contained note on
the history of the case and since this is not
the first time that we are dealing with this
kind of request.

P. Singh
17/3

~~ref.~~

Urgent n/a please

P. Singh
17/3

SS (Shri. Rajshakar)

February 19, 1993

Pl. S.M.

19/2/93

Tim (Conn.)

(267) (6)

His Excellency
Mr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
The President of the
Republic of India
The President's Office
New Delhi
India

Your Excellency:

First of all, let me extend my most sincere congratulations on your new term of office as the President of the Republic of India.

I must ask an excuse to let me introduce myself. I am 74 years old retired person, and had served the Imperial Japanese Army during the Pacific War. At the end of the War, I was ordered to escort the remains of Netaji Chandra Bose to Tokyo from Taipei, Formosa (Taiwan), who was killed in August 1945 by an aircraft crash there. Since then, I have been trying to return the ash of Netaji to its native country, but failed. The ash is still enshrined at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, and enclosed you may find, President Prasad, Prime Minister Nehru, Prime Minister Gandhi and Netaji's family paid visit there when they came to Japan.

I am very pleased to know the news that the government of India has recently announced bestowal of the Bharat Ratna, the highest decoration in the country, to Netaji. To take this opportunity, I would like to ask you for the special favor, so that the ash shall be returned in a secure and honorable manner.

As you may recognize, it is my earnest and lifetime wish to return the ash of Netaji to its motherland. I am getting older and the time left to me is not long. I sincerely wish to have your special attention on this, and to hear a good news.

Very truly yours,

Tatsuo Hayashida

Tatsuo Hayashida

encls.

cc: His Excellency Mr. Prakash Shar
Ambassador of the Republic of India in Japan



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प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली-११००११
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI-110011

H.S. Shah
Joint Secretary
to Prime Minister

June 27, 1978.

NO-PMS-14164

Dear Mr. Hayashida,

The Prime Minister has received your letter dated June 12, 1978, forwarded by Mr. Tatsumaru Sugiyama, General Secretary of I.C.W.A. on the subject of Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The Prime Minister will write to you on the subject in course of time.

Yours sincerely,

H.S. Shah

(H.S. Shah)

Mr. Tatsuo Hayashida,
38 21st Street 3Chome Haruyoshi,
Fukuoka JAPAN-810.



Private Secretary to
the Prime Minister

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय

नई दिल्ली-११००११

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

NEW DELHI-110011

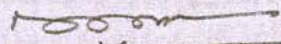
February 22, 1979

Ms. 4815

Dear Sir,

I am desirous to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 16, 1978 addressed to Mr. H.S. Shah, Joint Secretary, to the Prime Minister.

Yours faithfully,


(N.S. Sreeraman)

Mr. Tatsuo Hayashida,
38 21st Street 3-chome,
Haruyosji Chuoku, Fukuoka,
Japan.

英文：スバス、チャンドラ、ホース 発刊
—偉大なる斗争と殉国—
ボンバー・アライド、パブリッシャ社
早速ジャパン、タイムズが新書紹介の記事
を發表されたことに衷心より感謝の意を表し
たいと思います。

Reg. No. KL/EK/213

82nd Year (Estd. 1905)

MALABAR HERALD

KERALA'S OLDEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Vol. 78 No. 14

Cochin - 18

Saturday 29 August - September 12 1987

Price ps. 75

Why Leave Netaji's Remains in Japan?

[Mr. Tatsuo Hayashida, the writer of this letter was one of those who escorted Netaji's remains from Taipei to Tokyo.]

"I am one of the foreigners who have deep admiration for great Netaji. On September 5, 1945, I (then a second lieutenant aged 26) and Colonel Raman, a Bose's aid, escorted from Taipei to Tokyo his remains and articles left behind.

"I cannot feel World War II is over until the remains of Netaji, who was a national hero, one of the great contemporary revolutionary leaders in the world and an eternal friend and comrade of the thoughtful Japanese, return with glory to the earth of India and her people he loved. I can never die in peace until I confirm the fact of this return. Though his articles left behind were quickly disposed, the remains have not yet been

Mahabali, entreated his people that they should visit Siva temple of Thrikakkara during Onam. When the people expressed their difficulties, the king relented and asked people to offer their oblations at home. He also laid down the guidelines for the celebration. This did not last long. Mahabali left his beloved land for Vishnu to rule.

For different groups of people, Onam means different things. Nairs and Nambudiris observe all the rituals. For Tamilians of Kerala it is a day of feasting. Functional castes take Onam as a time for worship of their implements. For various hill tribes it is the festival of eating new grain. As a result of continued interaction, even Christians and Muslims celebrate Onam, except its ritual aspect.

Onam plays a prominent part in the social integration of the Keralites irrespective of their caste and creed.

taken over by anybody since they were laid in state in Renkoji, Tokyo, forty two years ago.

"To our regret, a myth that Netaji "lives" still exists in India. However his death is a stern reality. Ninety years have already passed since his birth, and I, a young lieutenant in the past have become sixty seven years old. It is needless to say that man is hard to live at 90.

"Under those circumstances, the Indian government dispatched twice investigation committees to survey the cause of his death. The first investigation committee was sent in 1956, headed by Shau Wards Khan, and the second was in 1966, headed by G. D. Khosala. As a result it was concluded that the remains temporarily laid in state in Renkoji Temple, Suginami-ku, Tokyo were certainly the Netaji's. Therefore, President Prasad, Prime Minister Nehru, Prime Minister Gandhi and Dr. S. K. Bose and Mrs. Bose paid visits to Renkoji whenever they came to Japan. Bose's death is a fact and the remains laid in Renkoji are surely the Netaji's. This fact is undeniable.

"After the war, I lived in Fukuoka, wherefrom I have been making efforts for returning the remains to India and honouring Netaji. I only wish earnestly that the remains may be taken over and received with the utmost honour by the independent Indian Government.

"Mr. Ryoichi Sasagawa, Chairman of the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation, has proposed to bear all the necessary expenses for returning the Bose remains to India if the government have no budget for it. I want to inform your people of the truth and help rest his soul in peace which has been astray these 42 years. I sincerely wish that this hero of independence may be a lasting guardian deity of India in conformity with the customs and religious disciplines of India."

August 18, 1987 was the anniversary of Bose's death.



(5) (22) 1456
भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

Shivshankar Menon
Deputy Chief of Mission

No. TOK/102/2182

May, 12, 1992

My dear Nirmala,

I am enclosing a petition that was handed-over to our Minister(C) yesterday by the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy in Tokyo. The petition requests that PM visit the Renkoji Temple during his forthcoming visit here. It also asks that the ashes of Netaji be returned to India as soon as possible.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Shivshankar Menon)

Smt. Nirupama Rao,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Copy with enclosure to Shri Shyam Saran, JS(S),
Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi.

olc

(Shivshankar Menon)
Deputy Chief of Mission

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P E T I T I O N

APRIL 1957

To: The Hon. Shri P.V. Narashenha Rao
Minister for External Affairs
Government of India

From: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: Petition for the Return of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India.

Sir,

Herewith our petition regarding the return of the Ashes of Late Subhas Chandra Bose which is at present enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could grant us the permission to send back the Ashes of Late Subhas Chandra Bose to India at your earliest convenience.

August 18th, 1945 when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash at Taipei air port, 37 years have passed since then, on September 18th, 1946 the remains and the Ashes of Netaji was brought and enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo. Then about 10 years after all those who were concerned with Netaji gathered and offered prayers on the death anniversary day the 18th August.

May, 1956 Netaji's death investigating team headed by Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan arrived in Tokyo and again Prime Minister of India Late Pandit Nehru visited Renkoji Temple on October 1957. Since then high interest were taken by various people and on January 23rd, 1948 Netaji's Birthday Anniversary Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose-Academy was established headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

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Since then this Academy observed Netaji's birthday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of returning back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially, this year in January 1982 when Gen Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed with your Excellency, and has submitted Aide Memo, a copy enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writing this letter, for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the members of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkojim who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son have taken over the Temple and needs a change over, so we request responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship we request the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at the earliest possible moment.

Hoping that this request should be graned,

Yours respectfully

J. KATAKURA

Tadashi Katakura

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose Academy

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ACADEMY
TOKYO, JAPAN.

M. HAYASHI
3090, NOGORITO, TAMA-KU,
KAWASAKI-SHI, JAPAN.

Dated April 1983.

RE : AN APPEAL TO FORMER OFFICERS AND THE PEOPLE CONCERNED
WITH INA REGARDS THE ASHES AND REMAINS OF LATE NETAJI
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

Let us not deny Martyrdom to the greatest man of India.
G. S. Dillon

It has passed 38 years since Late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash at Taiwan Air Fort in 18th, day of August 1945.

We who knew Netaji have been observing his birthday January 23rd and his death anniversary August 18th, every year and it is that we feel very sad and sorry to say that the ashes and remains of this Great Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who was a supreme commander of INA and a leader of Provisional Government of Free India is still in Rekoji Temple at Tokyo has not been returned to his Motherland up to now.

We have contacted our Foreign Dept many a times and the answers were that the Indian Government has not yet recognized his death and that they cannot do anything but wait, and even the Indian Ambassy in Japan gave the same answers.

However, that you must understand that longer we keep waiting, the people who knows and respect Netaji gets lesser and lesser and at the end their will be nobody to pay respect his remains which we feel very sorry.

Therefore, we appeal to our and his commarades the former officers and people concerned with INA to get the Netaji's Ashes and Remains back to India and may his ashes rest in peace in River Ganga.

Yours sincerely,

I whole hearted endorse TANASHI, KATAKURA
this appeal.

Tadashi Katakura
President.

Shah Nawaz Khan
Mazir General
INA

Masao Hayashi
Masao Hayashi
Secretary.

Pl. Salgar

24.5.83

Takehika Abe.

(276)

石川 孝治

也田 廿十

清水 一男

Kaishu Kuman.

A-yoh Raul

~~Osaka~~

Briga

J. B. Meyer

~~hume~~

~~Q. J. M. S. C.~~

矢代 隆二

藤原 岩市

有末 頼三

G. K. H. C.

若菜 唯三

峯 友 三

Shakappan

Capt.

Chikoro Fujii

Capt. Tsukamoto

T. Negishi

Dai-En-Ice Palace

佐々木 孝子

桑原 嶽

Maj. Kuwahara



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03 (262) 2391
Fax: 03 (234) 4866

(4)
277
FAX MESSAGE
MOST IMMEDIATE

To: FOREIGN NEWDELHI
Attention: DIRECTOR(EA) SMT. PRIMROSE SHARMA
Fax No.: 3010680
Message No: _____
Dated: 13.3. 1992
From: Shivshankar Menon, Deputy Chief of Mission

No. of pages
(including this page) _____

Repeated to: _____

M E S S A G E

REFER YOUR FAX OF MARCH 12, RECEIVED TODAY
REGARDING L.D. MALAVIYA, WHO HAS WRITTEN TO PRIME MINISTER
ABOUT NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE'S REMAINS(.)

DR.MALAVIYA IS FROM ALLAHABAD AND BELONGS
TO LATE MADAN MOHAN MALAVIYA'S FAMILY(.) HE FIRST CAME TO
JAPAN AS A VISITING TEACHER OF HINDI IN OSAKA UNIVERSITY
IN THE LATE 60S OR EARLY 70S(.) HE IS PRESENTLY TEACHING
HINDI IN TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES, WHILE LIVING
IN KYOTO(.)

AS FOR HIS SUGGESTION, AS YOU KNOW, IT HAS
BEEN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW FOR QUITE SOME TIME THAT NETAJI'S
REMAINS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO INDIA, SINCE THE GOVERNMENT
OF INDIA HAS LONG ACCEPTED THEM AS GENUINE, AND SINCE THOSE
WHO ARE TAKING CARE OF THE REMAINS IN JAPAN ARE GRADUALLY
PASSING FROM THE SCENE(.)

(S. MENON)

DCM

13.3.1992

File
Tok 1551/1/81
(1183)

Formerly Hindi teacher, from Madam Mohan Malviya's family, from Allahabad.
Visiting prof late 60 early 70s, in Osaka U.



सत्यमेव जयते

Tokyo U of Foreign Studies, teaches Hindi: 2 times
a week-

(3)

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03 (262) 2391
Fax: 03 (234) 4866

FAX MESSAGE
MOST IMMEDIATE

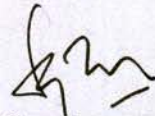
To: CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA KOBE
Attention: CONSUL GENERAL, SH SUSHIL K.VERMA
Fax No.: 0782 613372
Message No: _____
Dated: 13.3.1992
From: Shivshankar Menon, Deputy Chief of Mission

No. of pages
(including this page) 4

Repeated to: _____

M E S S A G E

Am enclosing the message from Delhi that
we spoke about(.) Would be most grateful for information
on Dr. Malviya(.)


(S. Menon)
DCM
13.3.92

MAR 12 '92 19:10

247 P01

(2)

(279)

P.1/3

CRASH

TELEFAX MESSAGE

12/1830

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

00

1/92

P-1/3

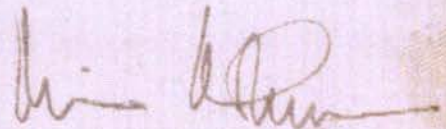
DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION

FROM

DIRECTOR (EA)

DR. LAKSHMIDHAR MALAVIA OF 3-124 TAKAHASHI,
SENGAYATA, NATANO-CHO, KAMPOKA. KYOTO, JAPAN 621-
02 HAS WRITTEN TO THE PRIME MINISTER (CONTENTS OF
THE LETTER FAXED HEREWITH)(.) GRATEFUL IF YOU KINDLY
LET US HAVE SOME INFORMATION/BACKGROUND/ANTECEDENTS
OF DR. MALAVIYA AND COMMENTS ON HIS SUGGESTION,
IF ANY(.)

Regards



(Primrose R. Sengupta)
Director (EA)
12.3.1992

DR. LAKSHMIDHAR MALAVIYA
3-124 TAKAHASHI, SENGHATA
HATANO-CHO, KAMEOKA, KYOTO
JAPAN 621-02

27th January 1992

FAY-03

P.2/3

RE: THE MORTAL REMAINS OF
SHRI SHUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE IN JAPAN

Dear Shri Narasimha Raoji,

I sincerely wish to thank you and your government for bestowing the Bharata Ratna award on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his ninety-fifth birthday. I am sure that not only millions of our countrymen but many of his former Japanese colleagues who are still alive and the Japanese public at large will also rejoice at the investiture. I am writing to you to draw your kind attention to one serious act of omission.

It is well-nigh impossible that it did not occur to any one in the Government, Congress Party or the press that the mortal remains of Subhas Babu are lying for the last 47 years in a closet in Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, Japan!

After exhaustive investigation by a commission in 1956, the facts relating the air-crash on 18th August 1945 near Taiko-ku, Fukuoka, are so well known that I need not elucidate on them here. I do understand the feelings of general public in India more so the fervent wish and desire of members of Subhas Babu's family - who persist on the hope of seeing him still alive. But there are other higher concerns of propriety and our national prestige, which ought to be addressed to without further delay.

Subhas Babu's remains were brought to Renkoji Temple in Tokyo on 15th September 1945, by the priest of a different temple, who was unwilling to accept those ashes. The Head Priest of Renkoji Temple, Shri Mochizuki has time and again expressed the wish that Subhas Babu's remains be brought back to India. There is no other motive behind his request except that, according to religious custom in Japan, Shraddha is offered for the last time on the 33rd death anniversary of the deceased, which in Subhas Babu's case fell more than a decade ago, on the 18th August 1977. Hence, Shri Mochizuki's desire for ashes' repatriation.

I have visited Renkoji Temple a number of times. Even though the remains in question are adequately taken care of, it pains to see them there. I am reminded of one late summer afternoon in early 1940s, when Subhas Babu visited our home in Allahabad, to pay his last respects to Mahamana Malaviyaji.

FAY-03

(21)

P3/3

In my humble opinion the Government Of India should at the earliest repatriate the remains of Subhas Babu from Japan. These may be preserved in India at some appropriate place, like National Archives, New Delhi or at Netaji Research Institute in Calcutta, for as long as the controversy around Subhas Babu's death is finally resolved or till his centenary in 1997, or even longer than that. Thereafter, these remains, whether or not confirmed as those of Subhas Babu, can be consigned to any river in India.

In the light of two similar precedents, I cannot fail to see that we have not been fair in the treatment of Subhas Babu's last remains. As you may well recall, the grave of Madanlal Dhingara, who was executed and buried in England in 1909, was opened in 1976 and his remains brought back to the land of his origin and immersed in Ganga at Haridwar. Similarly, the Colt revolver used by Chandra Shekhar Azad in his final encounter with the British police at Alfred Park, Allahabad on 27th February 1931, has been procured from England and is at present on permanent display hardly a hundred yards from the very spot where it was last used - at Allahabad Museum! According to Samskrit dictum MaraNantaani VairaaNi, I see no reason why Subhas Babu's ashes should still remain neglected in a foreign country.

What an immense prestige India would gain, not only in the eyes of the Japanese people but the entire world, if either our President, or you our Prime Minister came to Japan, this time with the exclusive purpose of accompanying back the last remains of that proud son of our Motherland, Subhas Chandra Bose!

Please find enclosed a speech by Subhas Babu, delivered at the Great East Asian Conference in Tokyo on the 6th November Radio Japan. After listening, kindly give it to All India Radio or the National Archives. I shall rest contented for being instrumental in restoring at least this one relic of his to the country of our birth!

With very sincere regards,

Yours faithfully

S. Manohar

SHRI NARASIMHA RAO
PRIME MINISTER
NEW DELHI
INDIA



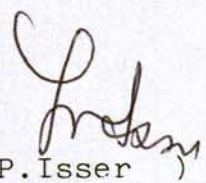
भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

FAX MESSAGE

To : Foreign New Delhi
ATTN: : Joint Secretary (XP)
RPT. Joint Secretary (EA)
FAX No. : 0061-91-11-3010700 OR 3782391
MESSAGE NO: TOK/102/2/92 DATED 29.01.1992
FROM : COUNSELLOR (PR & HOC)
No. OF PAGES: Ten (including this page)

We have received a questionnaire from Mr. Yuji Hiraiwa, reporter of Tokyo Shimbun on conferment of award of Bharat Ratna on late Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. A copy of questionnaire is enclosed for your perusal. Mr. Hiraiwa proposes to write an article on the subject incorporating answers to his questions from us. Tokyo Shimbun is one of the Japanese language dailies with a circulation of 1.3 million inclusive of both morning and evening editions. Its circulation is relatively small as compared with major national Japanese language dailies.

We shall be grateful if you could kindly indicate the lines on which our reply should be based.


(G.P. Isser)
Counsellor (PR & HOC)

(283)

all 9 papers.

①

From TOKYO SHINBUN

SPECIAL NEWS SECTION

Yuji Hiraiwa

Tel 3740-2547

Fax 3472-6963

To India Embassy

political section

It was reported that the
first class Order called

Bharat Ratna (it is meanin-
ng The Jewelry of India)

12:16 20040806

12:16 20040806

(3) (284) (2)

was awarded to the late Netaji Subhash Chandora Bose on 22 Jan.

I am writing to you to ask some questionns in order to write an article about him, who used to be familiar to Japan and Japanese.

Q1

Already 47 years have passed since he dead. Such a long

time later why was he awarded?

Q2

The evaluation over Chandra Bose, s work for India, s independence has not been fixed.

Around the state Bengal, he is really respected as a great person who organized INA (Indian National Army)

for India's independence.

people say that his broad-
casting to address the protest
had much effect on the move-
ment to the independence.

Still many people believe
that he is alive.

On the other hand, some pe-
ople say that INA was a pu-
ppet army of Japan, and in
fact it had not got much in-
fluence on that. His evalua-

287

5

tion has not been fixed according to my study. Is it true?

Is it the reason why was his award delayed?

Q3

How does Indian people react to this? And could you give some your own comment?

920118Z 0012:18 02344006

03 3472 6963 R-092 P.05

Q4

In India you have a custom to flow dead body to river or mountain. However, his dead bone is still in Sugunami-ku Tokyo. What is the reason? And does the division of his evaluation effect it? Is there any

RECEIVED 10:10 PM 03/08/00

SECRET (H) 12110 密件 02044006

289

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7

possibility after
this award his bone
would be returned to
his motherland and
flowed to the river
Ganges?

I am not good at
English, and I asked
my colleague to
translate these
questions.

You can write down

92-01-28 12:24 宛先 EMBASSY OF INDIA TVO 送信元-

03 3472 6963 R-092 P.07

290

289

F

in English. Please
 answer as detailed as
 possible. and send by
 fax.

Sincerely
 Yours

After I read your
 answer I would like
 to ask you more
 details with my poor

92H01M28E(W) 10:18 PM 3/23/4008

03 3472 6963 R-092 P.09

210 281

9

English by phone or

the End.

92-01-28 19:25 宛先-EMBASSY OF INDIA LTD 送付

03 3472 6963 R-092 P.09

(291)

for

~~AH(SPA)~~

A(B)

~~1508 A~~

A 925 NEW DELHI 30 311830

ETAT PY

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

COUNSELLOR (PR AND HOC) FROM DIRECTOR(EA)

INCOMING TELEX

~~C (PR & HOC)~~

PLREFYR FAX MESSAGE NO TOK/102/2/92 DATED THE
29TH JANUARY , 1992. ENCLOSURES CONTAINING QUESTIONS
NOT RECEIVED. GRATEFUL FAX SOONEST POSSIBLE.

FOREIGN

COLLS A 925

MEA/SKK/ 312350

PL ACK TKS

Refered on
3.1.91



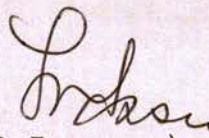
212

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

FAX MESSAGE

To : FOREIGN NEW DELHI
ATTN: : DIRECTOR(EA)
FAX No. : 0061-91-11-3010700
MESSAGE NO: TOK/102/2/92 DATED 3.02.1992
FROM : G.P. ISSER, COUNSELLOR(PR&HOC)
No. OF PAGES: Ten (including this page)

Kindly refer to your telex No. A-925
dated 30th January, 1992 regarding non-receipt of
enclosures containaining questions. A copy of the
questionnaire is attached. ~~Please expedite your~~
~~guidelines.~~


(G.P. Isser)
Counsellor(PR & HOC)

293

INCOMING TELEX

Exu/v C(PR)

A 28 NEW DELHI 70 030700

TO INDEMBASSY TOKYO

FROM TELERAPH SECTION

REF YR FAX NO NIL DATED 30-1-92 OF NINE PAGES EXCLUDING COVER

PAGE TOTAL PAGES TEN FIRST PAGE REG TOKYO SHINBUN SPECIAL NEWS

SECTION YQJ1 HIRAWA THE COVER PAGE OF THIS MSG IS NOT RECD MSG HELD

UP FOR WANT OF ADDRESS PL FAX URGENTLY THE FIRS COVER PAGE THE

COVERAGE

FOREIGN

REF A 28/ MEA/JK/ 030905



सत्यमेव जयते

294

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
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2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

FAX MESSAGE

To : FOREIGN NEW DELHI
ATTN: TELEGRAPH SECTION
FAX No. : 00191113010680
MESSAGE NO: TOK/102/2/92 DATED 04.02.1992
FROM : COUNSELLOR(PR&HOC)
No.OF PAGES: Two (including this page)

Refer your telex message No.A-28
dated 3rd February, 1992. The cover page total pages ten
first page regarding Tokyo Shinbun, special news Section by
Yuji Hiraiwa attached.

(G.P.Isser)
Counsellor(PR & HOC)

205

1020074

日本郵便
NIPPON
★ 90
登戸駅前
NOBORITO
EKIMAE
通用当日限り
★ 12 ★
00.08.23

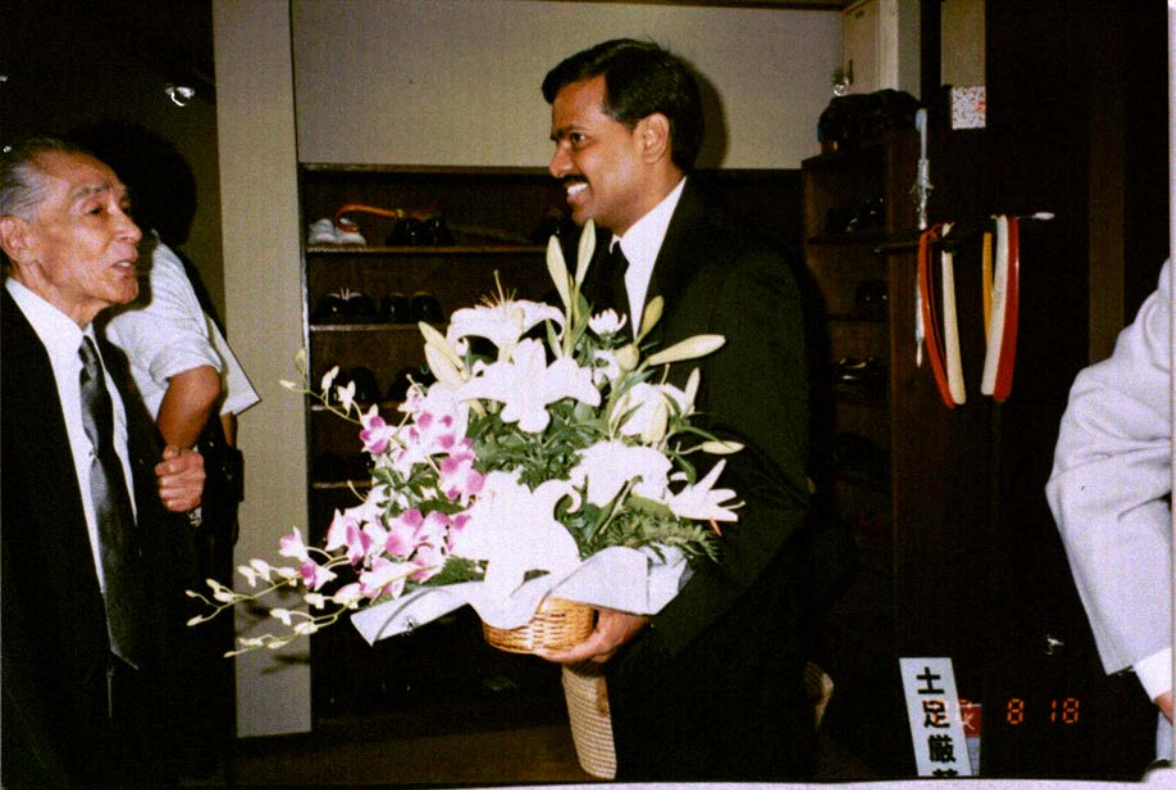
馬場花子

東京部
九段南
印度大使館
C. ラーヤセーカ
様
18/8/2000
Photographs on occasion of
Mr. Y. S. Narasimhaiah's
visit to Japan
25/8/00



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土足厳禁

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スズキ・チャンドラ・ボート・カヌー

